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THE FRUIT WORLD & "Market Grower"

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Circulates to Growers of Dried, Canned, Deciduous, and Citrus Fruits, Market Gardeners, etc., Throughout Australia, New Zealand and abroad.

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Vol. 46. No. 9 SEPTEMBER 5th, 1945 Price 6d.

Special Articles This Month

South Australian News and Notes
Soil Fertility
Spraying Fruit Trees
Goulburn Valley Reports
Tasmanian News and Notes
Co-operative Marketing
Queensland News and Notes
Pruning Fruit Trees
Apple and Pear Industry
West Australian Reports

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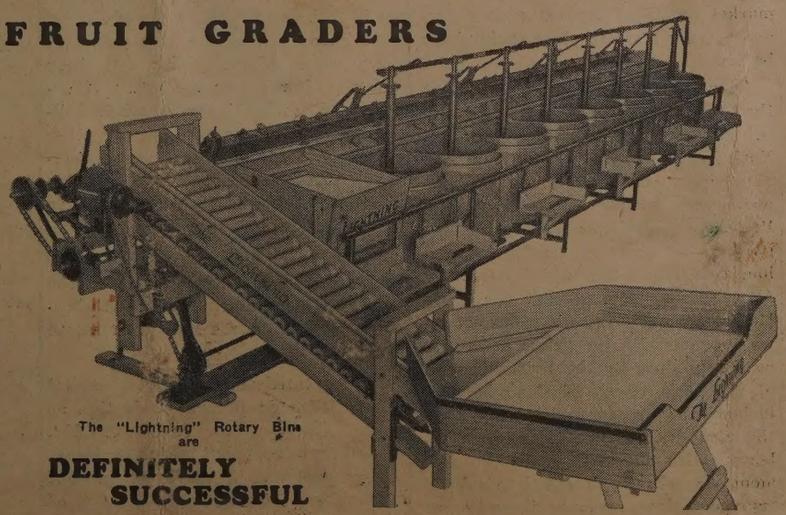

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By Arthur D. Borden, University of California

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West Australian News

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION — POTASH PRODUCTION — CANNED FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

(By Our Correspondent.)

ORANGES have been abundant, and have been selling down to as low as 5/6 a bushel case. Lemons are so plentiful that on some metropolitan market days they have been almost unsaleable. Mandarins have been in good supply, and Apples from cool store (fancy and extra fancy Granny Smith, Yates, Doherty, Cleopatra and Dunn's) have been in good demand. There has also been good sale for Cape Gooseberries and Passion-fruit. Geraldton Tomatoes have mainly been too green, but have realised from 10/- to 21/- a case.

There has been a general shortage of vegetables, and at the moment Potatoes are almost impossible to obtain. The outlook for future supplies of vegetables is not good.

Market gardeners are complaining that general marketing conditions are chaotic. Actually the supply is not equal to the demand, and complaints are made that rationing is not strictly enforced, with the result that many retailers are buying direct from the growers. **The Secretary of the Market Gardeners' Association (Mr. D. H. Mountjoy) contends that the only cure for the present state of affairs is planned production and distribution.**

At a meeting of the Fruit and Vegetable Buyers' Protection Association, it was contended that there were many instances of favouritism in the distribution of short-supplied lines, and an instance was given where of 26 crates of Cabbage submitted, 22 were allotted to one buyer, who had no connection with any of the fighting services.

On the other hand, the officials of the Fruit and Produce Auctioneers' Association, while agreeing that the present position is most unsatisfactory, state that under existing conditions a fair and equitable distribution to all districts is practically impossible. They consider that a stage has been reached where Government action is essential.

Orange growers have had a lean time this year, suffering first from the effects of drought, and now from excessive rain. Drought-breaking rains resulted in tremendous drops of ripe Navels, in some instances as much as 50 per cent. of the crops on the trees. Then from May 1st, there was a drop in the wholesale ceiling price to 16/- per bushel (1944 rate being 18/-, and 1943 rate 21/-).

The new ceiling prices for Apples are also causing dissatisfaction, and at a meeting of the Pickering Brook-Karragullen Branch of the W.A. Fruit Growers' Association, speakers declared that growers were getting a very raw deal. They said that glut prices were still being paid to growers, while their Apples were rationed to retailers and sold to the public at high rates. Owing to unprofitable prices trees were being neglected, and there was little likelihood of a surplus of Apples for years to come. The meeting decided to press for the full market value of Apples and Pears, and to take steps to place their views before Mr. Scully.

Answering a question as to whether the Government was aware that a useful industry had been established at York in the growing of out-of-season vegetables, and whether the Government was further aware that the Prices Commissioner fixed prices regardless of costs of production and long transport, the Chief Secretary (Mr. Kitson) replied that the State Department of Agriculture did not always agree with the prices determined for produce by the Prices Branch of the Department of Customs, and it had made representations both to the local Prices Branch and to Canberra. He added that the Government was always prepared to submit representations where these were justified, but they could not influence the Prices Branch in the final determination.

The State Superintendent of the Australian Apple and Pear Marketing Board (Mr. R. M. Carter) has recently made available some information regarding the past season's Apple crop and its handling. Both 1944 and 1945, he states, gave only medium crops, but during the two years growers were paid advances on an average of 1,500,000 bushels. Based on to-day's bearing acreage, he contends that the "normal" crop could approach 2,000,000 bushels. Total deliveries this year approximated 990,000 bushels, of which deliveries for marketing were 700,000 bushels. Local sales will approximate a reduction on last year's record sales of under 9 per cent. This reduction would not have resulted but for abnormal calls (including two shipments to the Ministry of Food, U.K., service shipments for Ceylon, increased demands for the services afloat and in South-East Asia, and a substantial requirements for the eastern States) upon supplies for special needs elsewhere.

Pre-war local consumption averaged 400,000 bushels per year. Current local consumption is over 600,000 bushels. Absorption of the W.A. crop depends on export, which had reached over 1¼ million bushels per annum. It is contended in this report, that "notwithstanding the difficulties with which the industry has been faced, Board policy in W.A. has been directed to make an ample supply of Apples and Pears available to the public at reasonable prices. This has been fully achieved over the years of acquisition, and this year, when ceiling prices are operating in all other States (due to an acute crop shortage), prices being maintained in this State are fair and very reasonable to the public."

This year W.A. has sent 62,000 cases of Apples to England, and 40,000 cases to the eastern States. A shipment of 5,000 cases recently went to Ceylon.

It is stated that the total capital expenditure on potash production at Lake Campion has been £224,398, including interest but excluding losses on production. Plant is at present producing 10 tons of potash daily, of 50 per cent quality. Selling price at sidings is £12 per ton.

Mr. J. H. Wensley, Liverpool manager of the produce firm of Anderson and Coltman, recently visited W.A. investigating post-war trading opportunities. He is hopeful that he can introduce larger quantities of canned W.A. Apricots, Pears and Peaches, and Orange and Grapefruit juices, to the British market.

Since March, 1943, Kaselys Ltd., of Claremont, have supplied 1,000,000 cans of Carrots to the services, plus fruit juices, syrups and cordials. Present civilian output is 600 gallons of syrups per month.

SEASONABLE NOTES

Some Orchards Unpruned :: Losses of Citrus Fruits :: Machinery Pool Acquires Powerful Tractor-driven Power Sprayer at Bridgetown.

Rainfalls for July were not as heavy as those of the previous month. Falls ranged from 460 points in the Donnybrook district, to 740 points in the Pinjarra district, states Mr. H. R. Powell, W.A., Supt. of Horticulture. The weather generally was cold and frosts were recorded in some districts. A very severe frost occurred in the Bridgetown district on the last day of July. Generally, most of the heavier orchard soils are waterlogged, and cover crops have made little growth.

Owing to the difficulty in obtaining experienced men there will be a number of orchards which will remain unpruned this year.

Citrus fruits have been greatly affected by the wet weather conditions experienced, and the losses of Navel Oranges, as windfalls, have been severe. These losses range up to 30 per cent. Varieties harvested during July include Navel and Joppa Oranges, Emperor and Scarlet Mandarins, Grapefruit and Lemons. Good values have been received for the popular counts, but other sizes and windfalls have brought much lower prices.

The incidence of diseases in citrus orchards have been somewhat greater than usual. Losses have been caused through both brown rot, and the blue and green moulds. Wolly aphis is showing up on Apple trees to a greater extent than usual. Very little fruit fly larvae has been noticed.

Loquat trees have set medium to good crops in all districts.

One of the machinery pools in the Bridgetown district has acquired a powerful tractor-driven power spray outfit. The use of this machine will make a tremendous difference in this district.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION WITHIN THE COMMONWEALTH AND NEW ZEALAND, 6/-, Post Free.
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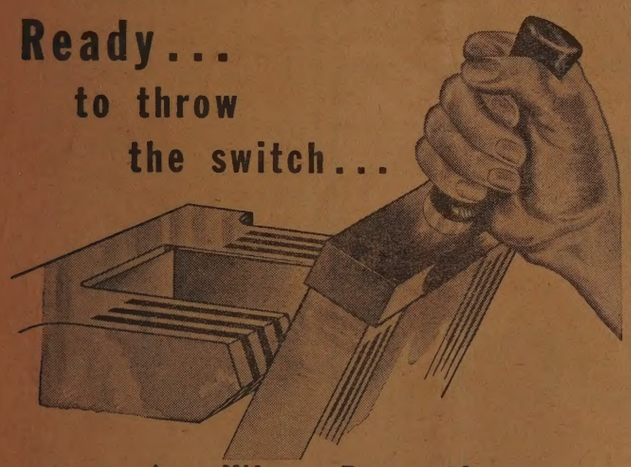
September 5th, 1945



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NEWS OF THE MONTH

THE WAR IS OVER.

During August the great news came through of the unconditional surrender of Japan. The whole world breathed a sigh of relief, of thankfulness for the cessation of bloodshed and hope for the speedy return of the prisoners of war.

At the moment of writing the military occupation of Japan is proceeding.

Colossal problems are facing the United Nations relative to the problems of peace. We shall need the exercise of all our resources of patience, goodwill, endurance and far-sightedness, with long-range planning, to win the peace.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

Despite the drought, Australia's current Potato crop will be the highest in her history, nearly 800,000 tons compared with pre-war production of about 350,000 tons.

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Total amount subscribed to war loans to date is £881,000,000, and about £70,000,000 has been subscribed in war savings certificates, interest-free loans and national savings bonds.

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Since its formation in March, 1942, Army Inventions Directorate has received more than 20,000 ideas from Australian inventors.

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Five thousand miles of main roads built in Australia during the war at a cost of over £8,000,000 will play a big part in post-war development.

OBITUARY.

Much regret is expressed at the death, in August, of Professor James Davidson, of the Waite Research Institute, Adelaide.

Professor Davidson had rendered outstanding service to Australian industry. He will be remembered as the officer in charge of the Thrips Investigation a few years ago.

Mr. Strickland, Sth. Aust. Chief Horticulturist, writes: "We were very much shaken by the unexpected death of Professor Davidson. He had undergone an operation some two weeks earlier, and it was thought he was well on the road to convalescence when his sudden death occurred. He was a fine scientist, and a true gentleman, and he will be sadly missed."

:: :: ::

The citrus industry loses a good friend in the death of Mr. M. G. Pelham Cobbett, chairman of the directors of the Bamawn Citrus Association, at the age of 72. Mr. Cobbett was also a director of the Victorian Central Citrus Association, and his sound advice was always esteemed. He leaves a widow and one son.

PERSONAL.

Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Benson, of Ryde, Sydney, celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary on July 28. Both were born at Ryde 82 years ago. For many years Mr. Benson was a leading orchardist, and he claims to be the first grower to export Grapes and Oranges to New Zealand.

:: :: ::

In a reallocation of duties in the Queensland Department of Agriculture, Dr. W. A. T. Summerville is now Director of Horticulture. Mr. H. Barnes, who was previously Supt. of Horticulture, has been transferred to another important position. In welcoming Dr. Summerville to his new position, there have been many expressions of goodwill for the fine service performed by Mr. Barnes.

UNIFORM RAILWAY GAUGE.

Plans are in hand for the alteration of Australian railway gauges to make them uniform to the 4 ft. 8½ in. standard, on the lines of the report by Sir Harold Clapp.

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APPLE AND PEAR EXPORT.

No Extensions Expected in 1946.

From enquiries in official quarters it is ascertained that no extension of Apple and Pear export from Australia can be expected in 1946.

Last season some 250,000 cases were exported overseas.

PREMIERS' CONFERENCE.

At the Premiers' Conference in August it was decided that legislation would be introduced in the several States to transfer price control to the Federal Government for a period of three years. Among other matters finance was provided for a big programme of essential works.

"The world is now so interlocked that salvation for any single nation can come only by world-wide full employment, world-wide expansion of production, and world-wide raising of the standard of living."—Henry A. Wallace.

NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE.

Last season a growers' association in Canada tried the experiment of storing 200 tons of McIntosh Apples in nets in a large lake. The experiment was unsuccessful, as the fruit was damaged by waves, birds and rats: also much of the fruit was covered with slime.

However, the experiment will be continued this season by storing in running water.

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British fruit growers are meeting with success in using the aphelinus parasite in the control of Woolly Aphis.

:: :: ::

The processing of foodstuffs in Canada—fish, meat, fruit and vegetables—has developed enormously. A national organisation, The Food Canners' Council of Canada, was recently established. There are special sections for fruit and vegetables.

A delegation from the National Farmers' Union of Great Britain will go to U.S.A. to observe and report on the dehydration of foodstuffs.

:: :: ::

The Federal Government has decided to negotiate with Soviet Russia for obtaining up to 100,000,000 super feet of timber either by Government purchase or through commercial channels.

:: :: ::

AN APPRECIATIVE LETTER.

Editor,
"Fruit World."
Dear Sir,

My subscription to "Fruit World" has elapsed, and I now herewith enclose cheque, £2/2/6 to pay for it some years ahead.

I have been connected with the practical side of fruitgrowing since early days at Mildura (May, 1892), and I would like to congratulate you and the staff of "Fruit World" on the popularity of the Journal and its great usefulness to the industry in keeping well abreast of the times in all matters of interest. I have been a subscriber for over quarter century, 1918, and I find it of increasing interest as the years roll by, always in the forefront in its advocacy of practical interest of growers in keeping the way open for up-to-date methods.

I have seen many changes since the early days of pioneers at Mildura, during the regime of Chaffey Bros. One knew little then: but they brought experts from America who paved the way but had to unlearn some of it and adapt to our local conditions in the practical field. Most (if not all) of those good old pioneers now passed on—but they have left footprints in the industry.

Again wishing you every success.

Yours faithfully,
CHAS. J. NASH.

Shepparton E., 15/8/45.

N.S.W. DRIED FRUITS BOARD.

THE ANNUAL REPORT for 1944 of the N.S.W. Dried Fruits Board states that the production for 1944 was 12,058 tons, as follows:—Currants, Sultanas and Lexias 9,620 tons; dried tree fruits 2,438 tons (dried Prunes being the principal item—2,279 tons). The Australian production of 104,257 tons in 1944 was an all-time record. The production for 1945 will show considerable reduction due to heat wave and drought.

Registered establishments were:—23 packing houses and 48 dehydrators. The last-mentioned are in the following districts, thus—Young (28), Griffith (18), Leeton and Batlow, one each.

Research. Investigations on the M.I.A. to improve Prune production and to prevent premature drop of D'agen Prunes is being continued by the Department of Agriculture. The Board provides the fertilisers. Appreciation is expressed for the C.S.I.R. research work at Homebush on dried tree fruits, including storage, steam blanching, cutting and sulphuring.

Publicity. Restricted advertising was continued to preserve consumer goodwill. A trust fund has been established for intensive advertising in post-war years.

Regarding postwar problems, the setting up of an interstate advisory body to report on future plantings is recommended; uncontrolled expansion would be dangerous. Continued preference in UK., Canada and N.Z. is essential.

Members of the Board are Messrs. G. J. Evatt (Chairman), E. J. Hudson, L. B. O'Donnell, J. C. Granger and P. C. Cox. The next election will be in February, 1946.

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NEPTUNE WHITE SPRAYING OIL
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SPRAY SPREADERS

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Fruit Cases

Be wise and order your supply of new cases now. FLAT, DUMP, LONG BUSHEL, KERO. CASES, in shooks or made up.

We also supply Spray Materials, Hose, Cultivating Equipment, Motor Oils, Batteries, and all Hardware.

IVAN F. STEBBINS
Hardware Merchant,
623 COLLINS ST., MELBOURNE

SEASONABLE NOTES

SPRAYING FRUIT TREES.

Spraying plants should be overhauled and put into good working order.

Thoroughness is imperative, especially for the calyx spray to combat codling moth.

For the control of codling moth in Pears Mr. L. W. Miller (then Asst. Entomologist, Vic. Dept. of Agric.) conducted tests in the Goulburn Valley. (Mr. Miller is now Entomologist to the Tasmanian Dept. of Agric.) His recommendations included the use of arsenate of lead, 5 lb. of paste or 2½ lb. of powder to 80 gallons of water. Unsatisfactory results were obtained when a spreader, such as calcium caseinate, was used, owing to the excessive run-off and the ease of the weathering of the resultant deposit.

Further, the addition of nicotine sulphate to lead arsenate in the cover sprays was not warranted. The use of cover sprays of white oil emulsion (1-60) did not result in any decrease in the infestation, when compared with less expensive schedules where lead arsenate was used throughout the season.

Lead arsenate-white oil mixtures were found to be superior to lead arsenate even when quantities as small as 1 pint to 80 gallons were used. When the quantity of white oil emulsion was increased to 4 pints to 80 gallons highly satisfactory results were obtained. The use of larger quantities of white oil emulsion in such combinations, however, was not warranted.

Lead arsenate-white oil mixtures containing the above quantity of white oil should be used for at least both the cover sprays against the first brood.

Mr. Miller emphasised that the timing and the thoroughness of the spray applications were of major importance in determining the success of any spray schedule.

Furthermore, when a maximum effort was directed toward the elimination of the first brood of codling moth in Pears the danger of infestation from later broods was minimised. Three sprays—a calyx spray and two cover sprays—were normally required against the first brood under Goulburn Valley conditions.

It was found imperative that the calyx spray should be applied at petal-fall, and not delayed for 10-14 days, if satisfactory results were to be achieved. The two cover sprays against the first brood should then be applied to coincide with the period of maximum oviposition. The effectiveness of these first-brood sprays determined the necessity or otherwise of later sprays.

The banding of the trees trapped a large number of larvae.

To assist in the control of codling moth generally, experiences of growers in various parts of Australia confirm the value of determining the period of maximum egg hatching by means of lures made from molasses, apple juice, vinegar or wine dregs. The lure pots should be examined twice a week.

Spray applications should be made within five to seven days of the period of maximum egg laying.

BROWN ROT OF STONE FRUITS.

All stone fruit trees should be sprayed with Bordeaux 6-4-40 just as the buds swell in the spring. Plums, Cherries and Peaches need this spray not later than the very early bud-burst stage.

Where Brown Rot has been present on Apricot trees, spray twice with Bordeaux, first at the pink bud stage and again at the pink-white bud stage.

The Biological Branch of the Victorian Dept. of Agric. recommends sulphur cover sprays to protect Peach, Plum and Cherry trees from infection. Dry-mix lime and sulphur has been found effective and cheap.

Experiments in the Goulburn Valley against Brown Rot and Rust show the value of the following formula—16 lb. air-blown sulphur, 8 lb. fine grade hydrated lime and 1 lb. lime casein spreader, used at the rate of 25 lb. of the mixture to 100 gals. water.

Spray periodically after the fruit has formed and during subsequent fruit development, but not closer than six weeks from maturity, except on canning Peaches, as the spray deposit affects the appearance of the fruit for market.

Sulphur sprays should not be used on Apricot trees, because of serious risk of injury.

THE USE OF D.D.T.

A reader wrote to the "Fruit World" as follows:—

Since tests were carried out with D.D.T. for codling moth, please let me know:—(1) How effective was it, (2) concentration used, (3) any harmful results, (4) any special points noted.

Mr. A. G. Strickland, M.Ag.Sc., Chief Horticulturist, Sth. Aust. Dept. of Agric., states as follows:—

Our initial tests with D.D.T. for control of Codling Moth showed promise, and the questions asked could be answered thus:—

1. More effective than arsenate of lead when applied as frequently, e.g.:
Series 1—
0.1 per cent. D.D.T. suspension—18.4 per cent. entries.
Standard lead-arsenate plus white oil—58.6 per cent. entries.

Series 2—
(a) 0.1 per cent. D.D.T. suspension, standard schedule (six cover sprays)—13.1 per cent. entries.
(b) 0.1 per cent. D.D.T. suspension, every 2nd cover spray omitted (3 cover sprays)—43.3 per cent. entries.
(c) Lead arsenate-white oil standard schedule (6 cover sprays)—38.6 per cent. entries.

2. Concentrations 0.05 per cent. and 0.1 per cent.

3. No phytocidal effects noted.

4. See No. 1.

5. A decision by Health authorities on the matter of tolerances for D.D.T. residues on fruit is necessary.

FRUIT AND PRODUCE EXCHANGE
TURBOT STREET, BRISBANE.
Satisfaction Assured.
M. LLOYD
43
BRISBANE
Stencils on Application.

A NEW INSECTICIDE.

DETAILS of a new insecticide for which outstanding properties are claimed were recently given in England by Dr. R. Slade, of the I.C.I. The substance, known as Gammexane, is highly toxic to many insects, including Cabbage caterpillars, Winter moth caterpillars, blossom beetle, Apple blossom weevil, Pea and Bean weevil, bugs, fleas, and mosquitos. The fruit tree red spider does not seem to be very susceptible, although their mites undoubtedly are.

Successful results have been obtained against a wide variety of agricultural and horticultural insects, and trials indicate that the produce may be of considerable value as a soil insecticide. A preliminary experiment against wireworm leads to the hope that at last a means of fighting this pest has been found.

Unlike many insecticides, gammexane has proved to be exceptionally stable to high temperatures. This enables it to be applied by volatilisation from hot plates, or by other heating methods, producing the insecticide in the form of "smoke."

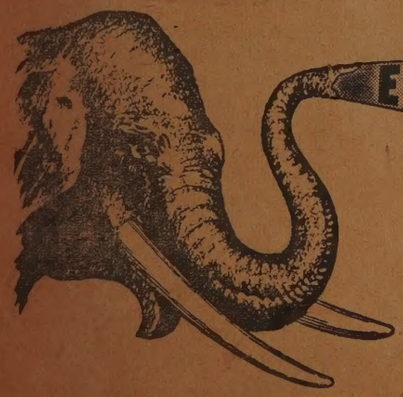
For some uses the material is required in solution in an organic solvent. Solutions containing 5 per cent. gammexane or more may be diluted for use with kerosene or other suitable oil Concentrated solutions can be prepared which on the addition of water give a stable emulsion suitable for use in the field.

CURRANT STEM-BORER.

To control the Currant stem-borer which also attacks Gooseberries, Raspberries, etc., early pruning and the burning of infested canes or twigs is recommended by Entomological branch of the N.S.W. Dept. of Agric.

The adult moths normally appear from October onwards.

The eggs are laid on the new growths of the plants, generally close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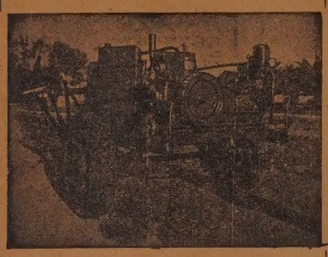

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to a bud or young shoot. Hatching takes place in about ten to fourteen days and the young caterpillars commence to bore into the canes. They feed on the inner pith, and in some instances may reach the main roots of the bushes. Feeding continues during the Spring and Summer and the caterpillars overwinter within their tunnels and enter their pupal or chrysalis stage the following Spring.

CITRUS INDUSTRY PLANNING.

PRESENT AND FUTURE prospects for the Australian citrus industry were discussed at Parliament House, Canberra, in July at an industry conference, Mr. F. W. Bulcock, Director-General of Agriculture, presiding.

There was a representative attendance of representatives of growers' organisations and Departmental officers.

Hon. J. J. Dedman, Minister for Post-war Reconstruction, said that citrus production had increased from just over 3,000,000 bushels in the five years before 1914-18 war to 5,200,000 in the five years preceding this war. Production was now declining.

Resolutions were adopted to the effect that any future expansion of the citrus industry should be planned on a Commonwealth basis, and requesting continued research by the C.S.I.R. and State Depts. of Agriculture. The conference is due to resume about October.

TOMATOES.

Spraying Tomatoes with Bordeaux 1-1-20 at 10 days' intervals in spring and autumn is a safeguard against fungoid diseases; spraying may also be necessary in summer.

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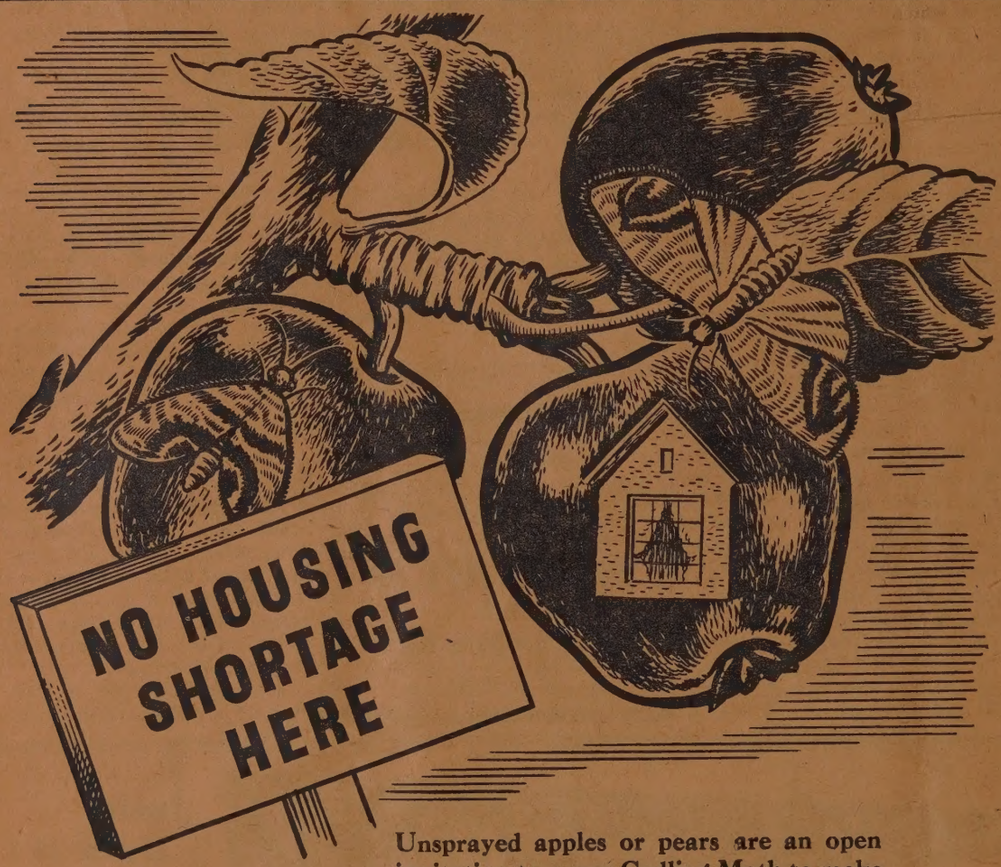

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PROGRAMME FOR SPRING IRRIGATION.

Success Depends on Timing.

(By R. R. Pennefather, Research Officer in Charge, Soils and Irrigation Extension Service, Murrumbidgee Irrigation Areas.)

RAINS THIS WINTER have given an excellent start for spring operations. Although late for maximum growth of cover crops, they were heavy enough to wet the full root zone, usually without adding to the watertable. Now is the time to consider turning in cover crops and weeds and preparing for the first irrigation.

In early spring, the irrigation policy everywhere is to water lightly. This is Californian practice and is far more necessary on our tricky M.I.A. soils. Watch these points:—

1. **Don't Water Before You have To.**—Keep the soil auger shiny with a few borings each week—or if your good intentions about getting an auger have gone astray—there is always a spade or shovel to tell you about the part of your farm that really matters—the first 18 inches.

2. **Don't Water all the Surface.**—Until November the plant makes only small demands on soil moisture, and waterings need not cover all the surface. For example, you can water in only two furrows per bay—one along each side of the tree line—or water in alternate bays, leaving the dry bay to be irrigated during the second spring watering.

3. **Water Long Enough to Wet Only the First 24 Inches.**—On very light soils this may take only a few minutes run in each furrow; on heavy soils, several hours. You should know what your soils want.

4. **Irrigate at the Right Frequency.**—Spring irrigations can be widely spaced, but taking care that no wilting occurs during the blossoming or fruit setting period. Watch for that sudden break to hot, windy weather which can wilt your trees in a couple of days. If necessary, rush on a special watering.

5. **Prepare Your Ground Well.**—This year cover crops or weeds should be turned in before the first watering, just at or before the flowering period of the cover crop.

Sometimes it is hard to get good furrows through the trash-filled soil. Sometimes, with the best of intentions, you may get behind and it becomes necessary to water through the standing crop, but ways must be found for overcoming these difficulties.

Do Things at the Right Time.—Spring is the most critical period of the year for timing operations. If you slip now your trees or crop will inevitably suffer: nothing you can do afterwards can make up for being too late in putting on nitrogenous fertiliser or turning in cover crops, for applying excessive water (when waterlogging may be with you for the rest of the summer), or for letting the ground get too dry (when size of fruit and yields will inevitably suffer).

These are not theories, but facts established in every country and based on the patient taking of thousands of measurements.

If you are in danger of falling behind with spring operations, why not try the Machinery Pool?

PRUNING CITRUS TREES

CORRECT PRUNING ENSURES RENEWAL OF FRUIT-BEARING WOOD IN MATURE TREES — YOUNG TREES SHOULD BE TRAINED BUT NOT PRUNED SEVERELY.

TREATMENT FOR FROST DAMAGED TREES.

(By F. G. Fox, Foreman, Berri Experiment Orchard, River Murray, S.A.)

THE CHIEF OBJECTS OF PRUNING ARE — (1) Removal of dead wood. (2) Thinning of too dense foliage to allow the light to filter in, so as to set the blossom inside the tree. (3) The removal of crossing limbs and (4) To cut away spent and dying wood. So stated Mr. F. G. Fox, of the Berri (S. Aust.) Experiment Orchard in a paper before the Berri Agricultural Bureau.

You do not prune the roots of a tree, therefore any reduction in the top of a tree will give some benefit, continued Mr. Fox. Taking out the dead wood will allow the light to filter in Cutting away limbs here and there will reduce the top in comparison to the roots, and will force new growth, but by watching the wood you are taking out you will get better results still.

When you approach a citrus tree, crawl in the best way you can and then trim the skirt up (but not too high) and reach up as far as you can from a sitting position, cutting away the underneath wood and dead wood as well.

Work right around the tree, then stand up and do the next layer right around; then climb the tree, using rubber boots. After that you will find that there is very little left when you come to do the outside and top of the tree.

I do not advise cutting everything off the limbs inside the tree, as it is much better to leave whatever sound wood there is there and space it out somewhat. After about two months run over the inside of the tree again and take out some of the sucker growth and shorten others. This work does not take long to do and you will find that it keeps the tree in better shape and does away with the crossing growth.

My advice is that a citrus tree should be pruned out every third year. In most cases, a healthy tree after pruning will get a new lease of life and will generally throw a good crop. I quite realize, that pruning is not the only thing a tree needs, but it is one of them.

By pruning a citrus tree one can increase the crop over the unpruned tree, in a period of three years by five cases per tree. Even if the grower had to give a case or the price of a case of Oranges per tree for this work (I do not think it has cost anything like this) it would still pay.

Pruning the Young Citrus Tree.

SINCE THE PRIMARY OBJECT of the citrus grower is the production of fruit, pruning treatment during the early years should be of such a character as to encourage the development of strong and vigorous trees with a large bearing area which will fruit at as early an age as is consistent with the health of the tree.

Experience has clearly indicated that these objects are invariably accomplished by a minimum of pruning. **It is certain that severe pruning treatment during the early years results in dwarfed trees and delayed fruiting.**

With practically all varieties, however, a certain amount of training is necessary if proper framework formation is to be secured, and attention to this is a matter of the greatest importance for the future welfare of the tree. Unless carefully attended to during the first three years after planting, the young citrus tree is almost certain to develop a decidedly poor framework. The tendency is for the main scaffold branches to rise at or about the same place on the trunk. This is encouraged by the nursery methods used at the present time in forming the heads of the trees. If the heads are not thinned out, in later years pinched branches and weak crotches are certain to result.

During the first two or three years in the orchard special attention should be given to the selection of framework branches which can grow and develop so that in later years it will not be necessary to remove them in order to prevent crowding.

A mistake very commonly made, is the clipping off of all the ends or the removal of the long, slender hanging branches on the lower parts of the tree. These should be allowed to remain for the first few years, as they constitute the principal source of revenue during the early life of the trees.

When the framework branches are established, about all the pruning the young tree should receive is the removal of suckers from the trunks and of unusually vigorous water sprouts from the head, together with the elimination of crossed or interfering limbs and some thinning out of the dense foliage.

Pruning Frosted Citrus Trees.

It is wise to defer frost injured trees until it is clear just how far back the wood has been killed. The problems in reforming the tops of the frosted citrus trees fall in two classes; those dealing with young trees and the other with larger mature trees.

Reheading Young Trees.

When a one or two-year-old tree has been killed to a point near the ground it should first be determined in each individual case whether the dead wood extends below the bud union. **If there remains enough live wood above the union to grow a strong shoot, such a shoot may be allowed to grow and become the trunk of a new tree, all other shoots being suppressed.**

If, on the other hand, the trunk is killed below the union it will be necessary to set a new bud. This, of course, would have to be done between the months of September and March, In case the trees have been killed to the ground, it is as well to select the most vigorous sprout and bud into this, four to six inches above ground level. In all cases where a new trunk must be grown on trees already planted in orchard form, it is necessary, of course, to stake the trees and tie them every few inches, taking care to disbud often and remove all sprouts from the root. When the tree is at a desired height it should be headed. A stake about three feet six inches long is advisable in order to prevent injury by passing teams and tillage tools.

Where the tops of young trees are partly frozen, it will be found, especially with Lemons, that the more rapid growing upright shoots have been killed while the fine fruiting brush has been spared.

Instead of cutting back all these injured shoots in proportion to the injury, it is much better, especially with Lemons, to take out most of the strong upright canes entirely. If all are merely cut back and allowed to remain, each one will throw up similar shoots, which in turn may be cut back, the final result being a broom-like growth with far too many shoots.

The proper pinching and thinning of so many shoots will involve much more labour than the commercial orchardist can afford. It is better, therefore, to remove most of the upright vegetative shoots entirely and rely on new shoots from the horizontal wood to enlarge the framework of the top. All water shoots arising from the trunk and around the crotches should be removed. It is a good plan to whitewash the exposed trunks in order to prevent sunburning of the bark.

In many cases the bark of the trunks of young trees has been split by the frost and has dried out, resulting in a strip of dead bark on one side, usually south-west side. This condition is not serious, provided there remains a strip of live healthy bark of sufficient width to provide a flow of sap to the top. The living bark will gradually increase in width and extend over the dead areas, in time covering them entirely. In order to prevent the entrance of wood decaying fungi it is as well to paint the dead areas with paint or sump oil; the latter I have found does a really good job.

Reheading Mature Trees.

Orange trees have much more resistance to frost than Lemon trees. Over certain large areas the recent freeze has ruined the fruit and completely defoliated the trees without killing back the wood to any great extent. In such a case the tree needs no extra pruning, although while the leaves are absent a good opportunity presents itself to remove conflicting branches and thin the brush with greater ease and efficiency than is possible when the trees are covered with leaves.

When the wood is killed back to any extent, however, too many shoots are apt to start from the live wood and many suckers from about the crotches. Some of these shoots should be thinned out, leaving only what is needed. Those left will be stronger and bear more fruit than if such a large number were allowed to struggle for life. However, such a course would require more labour than is available, and large growers will have to adopt the next best course, that is, of cutting out all dead wood and thinning the new growth by taking out bodily a certain number of branches.

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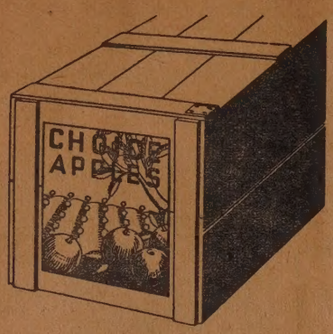

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Where Lemon trees have been killed back to any great extent it is best to withhold or decrease the fertilizer during the succeeding year in order that a more moderate growth may take place.

Frozen trees have been thrown out of balance. They have the same amount of root as before, which is now pouring sap into a much reduced top. The result is bound to be a tremendous new growth breaking out all over the trunk and branches. If additional stimulation is brought about by the application of quick acting fertilizers, this trouble will be increased. Wise Lemon growers prefer to build a new head out of the more moderate growth of fruiting wood rather than out of water sprouts. It is not necessary or always advisable to root-prune frosted trees, but if hard-pan or plough sole exists it may be broken up with a subsoil plough at this time with less injury to the trees from cutting large roots.

Whenever large limbs are taken out it is well to apply dressings of paint or sump oil to the surfaces in order to prevent decay and undue drying of wood. It seems reasonably certain that no injury to the tree can result from any of the materials passing from the frozen Oranges back into the tree. An examination of these Oranges which have been too badly frozen to be fit for packing, shows that most of them have been only partially killed. They are presumably respiring carbon dioxide. This loss of energy would be saved if the Oranges were removed from the tree rather than allowed to hang all the summer. There is no experimental evidence, however, to show whether this loss is sufficient to warrant the cost of early removal by hand. In case the fruit is picked off the trees it may safely be ploughed under, thus adding humus and some plant food to the soil. There is no danger of the soil becoming acid as a result of this practice.

Age of Fruiting Wood.

There is a feeling among growers, supported by considerable evidence, that as fruit-bearing wood ages it gradually declines in fruitfulness. An observation that was very commonly made following the 1912-13 freeze strongly tends to confirm this idea. (This was in California, by the way.) Many trees had to be rather severely pruned after the freeze, and normal crops were not expected for several years. To the surprise of the growers these trees bore good crops in the following year, and in the second year after the freeze in many cases they carried more fruit than had been produced for many years.

This behaviour apparently shows the desirability of the periodical renewal of the bearing area of the trees. Unquestionably, the cause of the low yields in the case of many of the older orchards is the absence of vigorous, healthy fruiting wood, a defect which can be remedied only by means of proper pruning treatment. Ample evidence is at hand to show the importance of stimulating the production of new interior fruiting wood, it being generally recognised that after two or three years of fruit bearing this wood loses the fruiting habit.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NEWS AND NOTES

Official Reports and Notes of the South Australian Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association.

S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association Inc.

Minutes of Executive meeting held on August 31, 1945, at 10.30 a.m.

Mr. R. A. Cramond, President of the Association, presided over the meeting, which was attended by the following Committeemen: Messrs. G. H. Schultz, A. D. McAllan, M. H. Cutting, C. L. Winser, R. Martin, W. J. Bishop, C. J. Pitt, A. O. Petersen, J. Turner, O. Esselbach, R. L. Giles, L. J. Wicks, W. Nicol, L. B. Pfeiffer, H. R. Robson, C. H. Ragless, J. D. Yeatman, A. Stuart (Secretary), and W. H. Wright (Minute Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs. R. James, J. B. Randell, L. Pethick, N. T. Hobbs, C. Stanford, F. Halliday, and A. G. Strickland (Chief Horticulturist).

The minutes of the July meeting, as reported in the "Fruit World" were confirmed.

Correspondence.

A letter addressed to the Minister of Agriculture by the Murray Citrus Growers' Association, relative to the registration of nurserymen was read to the meeting and received. Mr. Wicks stated that all nurserymen were in accord with the letter to the Minister, and the Bill in its present form is entirely unacceptable to nurserymen, and in his view was impossible and unworkable. He would like to see all nurserymen registered. Mr. Pitt moved that this executive meeting support the nurserymen in their protest to the Government. Seconded by Mr. Esselbach and carried.

Letters were received from the Premier and Professor Copland accepting invitations to be present at the annual meeting of the Association on September 28, also a letter from His Excellency the Governor (Sir Willoughby Norrie) regretting his inability to attend. Mr. Bishop moved, and Mr. Schultz seconded, that the Premier (Hon. T. Playford) be invited to open the annual meeting. Carried.

From Mr. E. Bullock asking for employment as a pruner.

Mr. Winser moved, and Mr. Schultz seconded, that the correspondence be received, and the writer thanked for his letter, and advise him to advertise in the papers in the ordinary way. Members pointed out that the Association was not an employment agency, but it might happen in the future, when labour could be employed through the Association.

A letter from the Murray River Wholesale Co-op. Ltd., in reference to growers in the Berri district was received. Messrs. McAllan and Bishop moved that the Association get in touch with Merbein growers with a view to affiliation, and the Secretary pay a personal visit with this end in view. Carried.

The Secretary read letters that had passed between the South East Potato Growers and the Association. Messrs. Wicks and Schultz moved that the Secretary be congratulated on his efforts at Mount Gambier, where a new branch was formed recently, and which shows promise of being a very active branch of the Association. Carried. The Secretary stated that there was reason to believe that the Onion growers in that district would join up the Mount Gambier branch. Mr. Martin supported the remarks of the mover and seconder, and hoped that in the near future all growers would be members of the Association. The Secretary stated that he hoped to be visiting the Nelshaby and Victor Harbour districts in the near future, and explaining to the growers in these districts the advantages to be gained by being members of the Association.

At this stage Mr Bishop said that he had listened with great interest to a paper prepared by the Secretary, and read at Clarendon on August 29, on the subject "Co-operative Marketing." He moved that a copy of the paper be sent to the "Fruit World" for publication for the information of members. This was seconded and carried.

A letter was received from Mr. C. W. McRostie, in which he commented on several matters of importance to growers, and the export trade.

A letter in connection with the A.W.U. claim was received, in which it was stated that the hearing of the claim had been adjourned until October 23.

Annual Meeting: The Secretary reported that the annual meeting would be held in the Shell Theatrette on September 28.

Sectional and Branch Reports.

Society: Mr. Bishop reported that business was fairly brisk and that the Committee would meet soon to arrange the annual meeting.

Cherry Section: Mr. Bishop stated that the Committee of the Section would meet to discuss the letter from Mr. McRostie.

Apple and Pear Section: Mr. Winser reported that the section had received a letter from the N.S.W. organisation re the working principles of the S.A. body. The Section was at present in communication with the Government with a view to having a film made of the industry. The Section had also been approached by a man who was desirous of establishing a factory for making Apple juice.

Citrus Section: Mr. Esselbach said that the market was quiet, but ceiling prices were still operating.

Vegetable Section: Mr. McAllan reported that the Section had been in conference with the Prices Branch, and he thought good results had been obtained.

Tomato Section: The Secretary reported that Mr. Stanford (chairman), had informed him that the section was up against a problem. The late frosts had caused extensive damage over a larger area, and was worse than last year. The maximum prices had been increased to help the position.

Celery Section: Mr. Martin said that the season was almost complete and the market was still buoyant. A reply had been received from Canberra, who were not in accord with the Association's views re selling on a weight basis.

Onkaparinga Branch: Mr. Pfeiffer reported that his branch were still organising, and had obtained some new members. Some growers were dissatisfied with inspections as they were carried out. His branch was pleased that the S.E. Potato Growers were joining up with the association. Dr. Grenfell Price had recently given his branch a talk on the San Francisco Conference, which was very informative.

General Business: On the motion of Messrs. Bishop and Martin, it was agreed that the executive approve of the payment of ten pounds to the Secretary of the Onkaparinga Branch for services rendered.

Mr. Pitt moved that an invitation be extended to the visiting members of the Potato Advisory Committee, who will be visiting Adelaide on September 12 and 13, to partake of the hospitality of the Association. The Secretary to make the necessary arrangements. Seconded by Mr. Bishop and carried.

Finance: The Secretary's financial statement was submitted to the meeting and approved.

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Co-operative Marketing of Primary Products

Its Possibility and Value.

(Prepared by A. M. Stuart, Managing Secretary of S.A. Fruitgrowers and Market Gardeners' Association Inc.)

PRIMARY producers have for many years been discussing the possibility of marketing their produce co-operatively; in fact, many organisations have instituted orderly marketing systems of varying forms. Unfortunately, however, the principles of co-operative marketing are not fully understood and appreciated by producers.

It is difficult to find a clear, comprehensive definition of co-operative marketing, but "co-operative marketing means working together for mutual benefit in solving marketing problems" furnishes a general idea as to its nature and purpose. For any co-operative organisation to be successful there must be undivided loyalty afforded it by its members, and unless this is done and the members feel a definite ownership of it, then the organisation becomes nothing more than a vendor of services and as such is destined to failure.

This system of marketing is not new, having been instituted in numerous countries for over 50 years, but it was not until after World War I. that a rapid expansion was in evidence. The expansion in the Baltic States, Great Britain, and United States of America has been most marked. As a point of interest £200,000,000 sterling is invested in capital in the various co-operative movements in Great Britain, and when this figure is compared with the capital holding in Australia of the B.H.P. Company and its subsidiaries of £25,000,000, some idea of the importance placed upon co-operative marketing by the producers can be gauged.

The Co-operative System Defined.

At the outset a brief explanation of what a co-operative organisation is, or ought to be, may be helpful.

Marketing, however undertaken, is a business, therefore when it is done through a co-operative organisation it is not removed from the sphere of business ethics. Co-operative marketing has often been referred to as a "cause," thereby inferring that its subscribers should be willing to work for and even fight for it if need be. However, a co-operative marketing organisation depends entirely for its success upon the improved service and financial savings it can show its members. To accomplish this the undertaking must be soundly organside, operated, and managed on business lines.

A co-operative organisation is a democratic body wherein the members have equal voting rights, or in other words, the "one man one vote" policy is adopted. It is in this respect that a co-operative differs from a private business corporation where shareholders are granted a vote for each share held. It is possible for one shareholder to gain control of the private company by acquiring 51 per cent. of the share capital. Then again, a shareholder in a business corporation is paid a dividend on share capital from any profit made after the deduction of working expenses, etc. The co-operative organisation's main purpose is to effect savings for its members, and not to make profits for itself. Any surplus which may be available for distribution is rebated to members in proportion to the amount of business transacted with the organisation. This apportionment is referred to under varying headings, "patronage dividend," "patronage refund," "purchase rebate," etc. Briefly speaking the rebate is in reality a refund of the part of the charge for doing business above that which has been found necessary to pay expenses and provide reserves. This means that only members who do business with the co-operative are entitled to any apportionment of surplus.

In most instances membership of the co-operative is restricted to growers who market through it. The law governing co-operatives limits the percentage of business that can be transacted with non-members. In order to maintain control over the admittance of members restrictions on the transfer of shares are often introduced.

As pointed out earlier, a co-operative marketing organisation to be successful must afford its members improved service in the marketing world. Many producers, however, look upon it as a wonder remedy which will im-

mediately cure any marketing difficulties. This is not so, but results achieved in the past have shown that lasting benefits can be obtained from co-operative marketing, provided, of course, members are loyal to the ideals of the system. Unfortunately many growers, particularly during the present war period, have found that at times they can do better financially as individuals, forgetting or ignoring the principle for which their organisation had been founded and operated. In other words, it simply means they are throwing away the substance for the shadow, and are in danger of losing, not only for themselves, but also for their fellow producers, the privileges and advantages gained for them over years of strenuous organisation. It is well for producers to bear in mind that all the best things in both private and business life are gained only through hard and persistent labour. The road to success is bristling with many seemingly insurmountable obstacles, and it is only through a determination to succeed and faith in an ideal that success is ultimately achieved. This is undoubtedly true concerning co-operative effort, where patience, and unbounded faith are very necessary attributes.

A demand for a co-operative organisation is not sufficient to warrant its establishment; there must firstly be a need in the industry for such a course to be taken. Unless the co-operative can offer better service than the existing channels of distribution or can better the existing conditions of its members then there is no need for its inauguration, consequently it is doomed to operate in an unsatisfactory manner or ultimately fail.

A co-operative formed on sound foundations can perform invaluable service to its members, but unfortunately many expect the impossible from their organisation A successful co-operative must have a long-sighted policy, not a policy covering "crop to crop" only. The latter type can only at the most afford its followers temporary privileges, but the former has as its object a lasting benefit in the form of stabilised production, markets, and prices. When considering the possibilities of co-operative marketing many persons are inclined to think in glittering generalities of things a long way off—"elimination of middlemen," "price fixing," "orderly marketing," etc.—little realising that some of the most likely fields for fruitful activity on the part of their marketing organisations are close at hand. It will be long before all the possibilities are fully realised. As a matter of fact, some are beyond the range or probability for the immediate future, though well within the range of possibility if sought by men of ability and clear vision. Moreover, all of them depend on good management.

The nature and extent of the functions of a co-operative marketing organisation is determined by the class of production handled, the requirements of its members, and the geographical situation of the industry involved. (To be Continued.)

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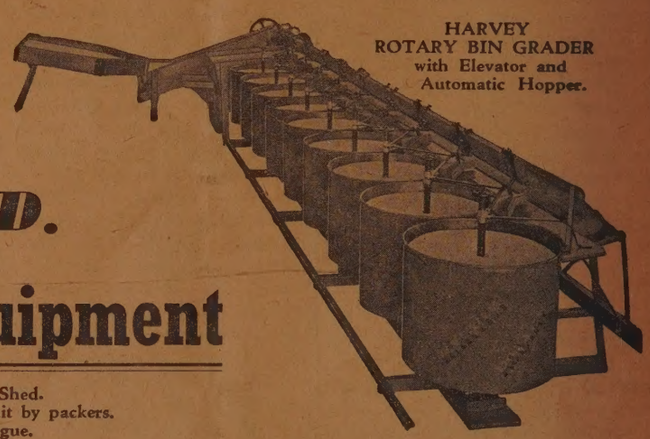

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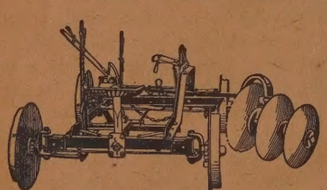

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Queensland News and Notes

Bananas — Pineapples — Citrus — Tropical Fruits — Strawberries — Large Vegetable Production Possible Pineapple Cannery Developments.

ALTHOUGH the frosts of mid-July caused large losses in vegetables, production has continued heavy, and varieties such as Beans, Lettuce, Cabbages and Tomatoes have far exceeded the local demand both for civilians and the Services.

Banana production has been heavy, particularly in the Murray Upper and Cardwell districts, which have concentrated on the Cairns market to take advantage of the C.O.D. ripening rooms. Unfortunately, the market has been heavily overloaded, and there appears little likelihood of relief until the rooms now being constructed in Townsville are ready for operation.

For many months North Queensland has been probably better supplied with citrus than any other part of Australia, but the crop is now rapidly drawing to a close.

A big crop of Carrots, Beetroot and Swede Turnips is now being harvested on the Atherton Tableland in quantities too great for the local outlet.

A feature of the Cairns market has been the appearance of some really excellent quality Cauliflowers produced in the Bilwon district; equally choice Cabbages have been available.

As anticipated, very heavy loadings of Tomatoes were made from the Bowen and Home Hill districts, with Sydney as usual the main outlet. Light loadings inter-State were made from Central and South Queensland, and total loadings reached record proportions. The following table shows the distribution of inter-State deliveries for a five-week period:—

Week	Sydney.	New-castle.	Melb.	Total
	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases
July 21 .	24,055	1,354	—	25,409
July 28 .	52,804	952	20	53,776
Aug. 4 .	52,428	1,482	—	53,910
Aug. 11	49,682	2,185	140	52,007
Aug. 18	42,073	1,819	710	44,602

There was serious congestion at Clapham, the inter-State transhipping centre, at some week-ends, particularly Victory week. If the C.O.D. had not inaugurated the second train weekly from North Queensland, the position at the inter-State transhipping centre would have been impossible. Growers were at first somewhat reluctant to load on these trains, but for the week ending July 28th 233 tons, mostly Tomatoes, were loaded on the second train from the Bowen and Home Hill districts and were cleared from Clapham on the Monday night.

The record North Queensland crop has resulted in a continued shortage of cases, and urgent arrangements had to be made for millers to cut Tomato cases from straight logs. This necessitated an approach to the Prices Branch, which agreed to an increased price for cases where logs had to be used specially for this purpose.

North Queensland centres had a visit in July from Mr. H. S. Franks, of Wamuran, Deputy Chairman of the C.O.D. and Chairman of the Pineapple Sectional Group Committee, and Mr. J. R. Stocks, of Nikenbah, a member of the Pineapple Sectional Group, who represents the whole of Queensland north of Nikenbah.

A Sydney newspaper has been featuring a fantastic story of Bowen as an "Eldorado" for the production of Tomatoes, Cherimoyas, Pineapples, Mangoes, etc. This paper blithely claims that £800 per acre can be made from Cherimoyas, and that last year the district took £500,000 from 255 acres of Tomatoes. Certainly Bowen growers have done well in the last couple of years, just as have growers in most other parts of Australia. The £800 per acre from Cherimoyas is, of course, pure fiction, and the average return from Tomatoes of £1,961 a gross exaggeration.

The articles would be humorous were it not for the fact that they will doubtless cause numerous heartburns, particularly amongst returned men who accept the statements in good faith and look to Bowen as an area for settlement.

Central Queensland.

The July rains completely broke the drought in Central Queensland, and resulted in a very rapid increase in vegetable deliveries. Rockhampton has again experienced gluts as serious as those which occurred last year following the withdrawal of the Service demand. Lines in oversupply have been Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Beans, Peas, Cabbages, Carrots, Beetroot and Papaws. Of these, substantial quantities of Beans, Peas and Cabbages were moved on to the Brisbane market to meet the shortage of greens. Some excellent quality Cauliflowers were grown quite close to Rockhampton.

During August meetings of growers at Byfield, Bouldercombe, The Caves, Yeppoon, Rockhampton, Ambrose and Yarwun were addressed by Major P. J. Savage, Chairman of the C.O.D., and Mr. B. Flewell-Smith, General Manager. Of these Associations two—Byfield and Bouldercombe—are interested primarily in citrus. The other Association members grow mainly Tomatoes and Papaws, and to a lesser extent Pineapples. There was every indication of a considerable increase in the production of Tomatoes taking place as a result of the high prices that ruled last year.

South Queensland.

Pineapples. Growers' estimates of Pineapple production for the period 1st August to 31st December indicate that the crop will be in the vicinity of 200,000 cases. The crop will, therefore, probably be the lightest harvested during this period for many years. This is partly the result of the favourable weather conditions prevailing in the spring of 1944, which caused the early flowering which resulted in the heavy crop harvested in May and June of this year. However, the main reason was the destruction by heavy frosts of large areas in 1943, which would otherwise have been producing ratoon crops during the present season. It is a feature of Pineapples that the older plantations tend to produce a much larger proportion of late fruit than do plantations on the first or second ratoon.

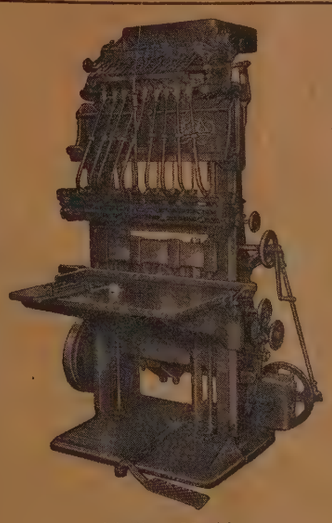
Seasonal conditions during the past winter have been more favourable than the industry has experienced for some years. Mild conditions prevailed throughout. For the first time for three years frost damage has been negligible in main producing areas. Rather too much rain fell during the winter for Pineapples.

There is considerable activity in the preparation of ground for the spring plantings. On present indications these will exceed all previous records, and it can be anticipated that pre-war production figures will again be reached when the new areas come into bearing in 1947 and 1948.

Considerable interest has been aroused among Pineapple growers by the publicity recently given to the enquiries now being carried out by the Queensland Secondary Industries' Development Committee into the advisability of erecting co-operative canneries in Queensland coastal areas with a view to expanding Queensland overseas trade in canned tropical fruit.

At present there are no co-operative canneries operating in Queensland, although the C.O.D., on behalf of Pineapple growers, holds a half interest in Queensland Canneries Pty. Ltd. This plant handles 60 per cent. of the Pineapples canned. The cannery is managed by the Victoria Cross Manufacturing Co., which is a link in the Henry Jones organisation.

Bananas. Efforts are being made in North Queensland to stimulate the northern demand for Bananas by the erection of modern ripening rooms and by advertising. There are indications, however, that increased plantings, more up-to-date cultural methods and disease control will result in production being considerably in excess of northern consumption and substantial quantities being shipped to the southern markets, particularly Brisbane.



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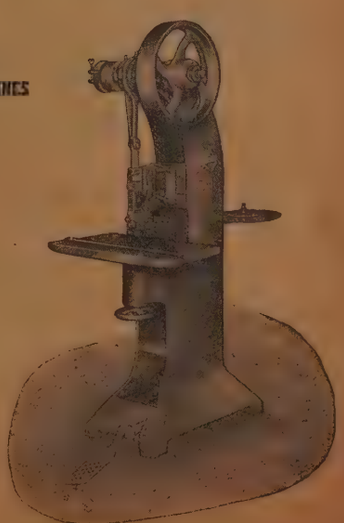

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Members of the Queensland Banana Sectional Group Committee consider this may present growers in Southern Queensland with a serious problem in the future, as though northern growers are under a disadvantage of approximately 2/- per case (extra freight), this is likely to be more than offset by:

(a) Low production costs in the north, where Bananas are produced in level country, and horses and machinery can be extensively used, as against the very high production costs in Southern Queensland, where Bananas, of necessity, are produced on rugged hillside country, where the whole of the work from planting to harvesting must be done by hand.

(b) Much greater production per acre in the north, where 200 tropical cases per acre per annum is not unusual, as against 70 cases per acre in Southern Queensland.

In view of the prospect of increased production in both Northern and Southern Queensland, the Banana Sectional Group Committee at a recent meeting decided to set up a special sub-committee to explore proposals for the stabilisation of the industry, and to submit specific recommendations to the sectional group at its next meeting.

Citrus. The market has generally been short supplied with citrus, with ceiling prices operating most of the time for quality fruit. Gayndah, the only large area in Queensland where citrus is grown under irrigation, was the only district to have a good crop. Some particularly heavy crops of Lemons have been harvested, and factory deliveries have proved a record, with total deliveries of over 500 tons.

Strawberries. The season has proved a good one, and heavy deliveries have been made daily to Brisbane, and substantial quantities sent to both Sydney and Newcastle. There has been a shortage of cardboard for boxes, which has thrown an added strain on the manufacturers of 4 lb. boxes and ply cartons. Record deliveries have been made of Strawberries in 4 lb. boxes, as the growers have found the market much more profitable than factory.

The strike of saw-mill hands, which commenced on August 23, may seriously embarrass the Strawberry industry, as it most certainly will all other sections of the fruit industry in Queensland.

Beans. Late in August Beans were showing the effects of lack of rain, but growers have had a very good season, and loadings will probably create a record. Growers greatly appreciated the seasonal increase of 3d. per lb. in the market ceilings.

Considerable concern has been expressed in the Bean industry at the announcement that the ceiling price has been fixed to the grower of 50/- for Brown Beauty Bean seed, with a premium of 5/- for certified seed. Outstandingly good results have been secured from locally grown certified seed, and growers cannot produce, under Queensland conditions, at these prices. If certified seed is not available the industry will be entirely dependent on seed imported to Queensland, much of which has proved most unreliable.

NTH. AMERICAN APPLE CROPS.

U.S.A. and Canada Very Light.

A prelminary estimate is that the 1945 U.S.A. commercial crop of Apples will be under 62,000,000 bushels, as compared with 124,000,000 in 1944. This year's crop is likely to be the lowest for over 20 years.

The Canadian crop is expected to be light. In Nova Scotia, Ontario and all eastern provinces the prospects are for light crops: in British Columbia the crop will be lighter than last year's record crop.

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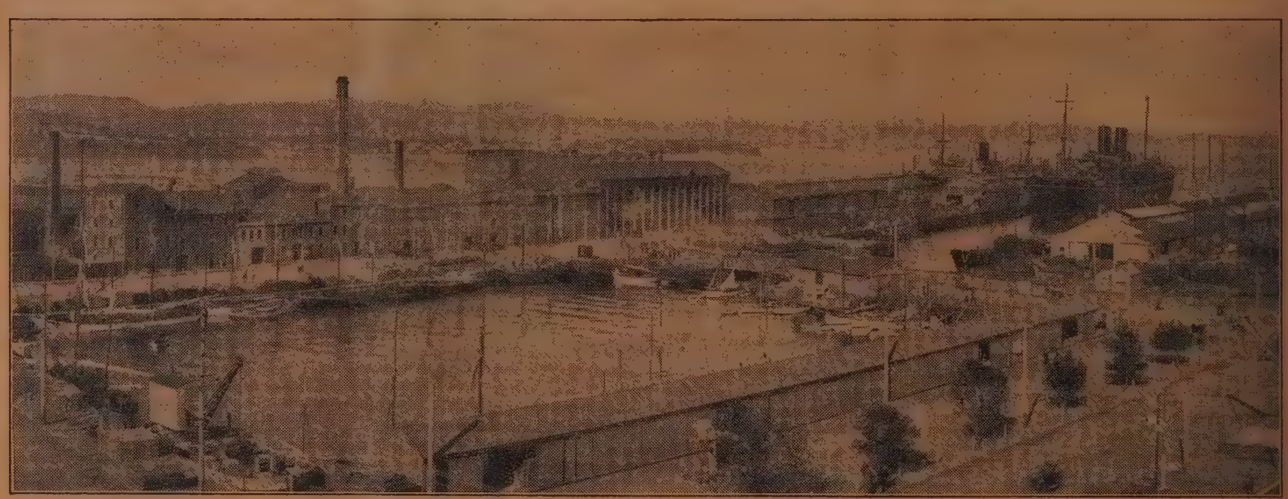

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Tasmanian News and Notes

APPLES AND PEARS SHAPING WELL FOR NEXT SEASON'S CROPS — PRUNING, SPRAYING AND MANURING — SHORTAGE OF CASE TIMBERS — BERRY FRUITS INDUSTRY — POST-WAR PROBLEMS.

(By Our Correspondent.)

Post-War Problems.

Hobart (20/8/45).

THE NORTHERN PORTION of the State has had quite enough rain for the time being. In some orchards a lot of soil has been washed away where cultivation had been done early.

Pruning is well under way, but in many places the land is too wet to make ploughing desirable. Practically all fruit is used up, except what is held in cool store.

Spraying for red spider, pear mite, and the preliminary spray for mildew and black spot should be completed by the end of the month. For mildew iron sulphide spray, applied in August seems to be a good spray, but strong lime sulphur solution is better where a combined insecticide and fungicide is required. The dry autumn checked the growth of cover crops.

The Pear trees seem well budded for the coming crop, and most varieties of Apples promise well. The grass is springing early this year. There is a good prospect of getting electric power laid on down the East Tamar in the near future, which will be a big help to the orchardists.

In the southern districts good rains have fallen, and in most places I should think there has been enough for the time being, and grass and cover crops are growing well. Pruning is proceeding well, and a good deal of winter spraying has been done already for Pear mite and red spider. Lime sulphur (1 in 10) or oil (1 in 20) is the usual winter spray. In orchards where Jonathans and Cleos. predominate, sulphide of iron is frequently used, as both these varieties are prone to mildew. Not many orchards are ploughed yet, as it was too dry until recently, and now in many places it is too wet.

The season seems earlier than usual, probably owing to the dry autumn. **Pears seem well budded in places, and nearly all varieties of Apples are showing well for a fair crop.**

Orchard fertiliser is of a better analysis this season, having a little more potash in it. By next season it is to be hoped rationing will be unnecessary.

Practically all shed stored fruit is finished, and the factories closing down for the season. The total quantities processed this season were satisfactory. Next season there will probably be less dried Apples wanted and Apple sauce, as this was done for the American forces. Apple juice also will be wanted in smaller quantities, but I think pie Apple will be in demand for civilian use in much larger quantities than before the war, and the trade seems to prefer the Sturmer to any other variety.

The shipping position should have improved sufficiently to allow the resumption of oversea trade on a larger scale than this season, but the supply of boxes may be a limiting factor, as it appears improbable that any will be imported, and the Tasmanian mills cannot cut all that is required, and cut building timber at the same time. **It appears that the best of our forests are being torn up into paper, while there is an acute shortage of timber for all other purposes.**

Berry fruit beds are being kept in good order, and some further plantings of Black Currants, Lloyd George Raspberries and Loganberries are going out in suitable areas. It appears that Port Huon Fruit Juices (Huon Cry brand) expect to be able to process all available Black Currants and Logans for some years to come. The supply of Strawberries is definitely below the demand, and is likely to remain so owing to the plants getting virus disease and dying out. The Agricultural Department is trying to breed a virus proof strain, and is meeting with some success, but it will take a long time to get production up to previous level.

Gumming has become a serious menace to the Apricot orchards, and appears to be incurable and on the increase.

Victory celebrations took up most of the week that the news came through, and sports were organised in most country centres, and, of course, processions and gaieties in the larger towns. Absorbing the discharged men in an orderly manner is going to be a difficult problem. Many will be unfit for strenuous work, and quite a lot, I am afraid, will not want it. It is no use putting them on the land unless there is an assured demand for the produce, and how we can supply overseas markets at a competitive price under Australian conditions of production and handling is difficult to see.

No doubt trade will be brisk for a few years, until the devastated countries are on their feet again and the housing problem has been settled, but unless Australia can export primary produce permanently, it appears to me that our progress will be slow. I anticipate that international trade will be a matter of agreements between the exporting and importing countries' Governments. It is to be hoped that the Federal Government does not sacrifice the primary producer in order to build up secondary industries.

Comment.

Despite the hope expressed by our correspondent for larger exports next season, the best information so far available suggests there will be no increase on last year's overseas exports of Apples.

TASMANIAN STATE FRUIT BOARD.

At a meeting of the Tasmanian State Fruit Board on August 9th the Chairman (Mr. T. G. Thompson) stated that several growers had stated they would appeal to the High Court for higher compensation for Sturmer Apples: They claimed they were receiving less than the true value for their product.

On the motion of Mr. J. R. Abel, seconded by the Chairman, it was decided to place on record that owing to lighter Apple crops this season in Tasmania, the payment to growers was insufficient, and to press for increased compensation next year.

Mr. C. O. Smith spoke in support. It was also decided to seek the co-operation of the W.A. Fruitgrowers' Association in this connection.

Fruit Tree Standards.—In view of pending legislation in all the States on fruit tree standards, it was decided to make enquiries concerning the proposals.

Defence Fund. — It was agreed to approve the draft of the Fruitgrowers' Defence Fund Bill to transfer to the Board the funds formerly collected to protect growers' interests.

Acreage Tax.—It was decided to continue the orchard tax at 1/- per acre as at present.

CASE TIMBER SHORTAGE.

A deputation representing the Tasmanian State Fruit Board waited on the Premier (Mr. Cosgrove) on August 9th. . Messrs. J. S. Bulmer (President N.Tas. Fruitgrowers' and Farmers' Association), T. G. Thompson (Chairman of the Board), and L. S. Taylor (Executive member Australian Apple and Pear Marketing Board), stressed the urgent necessity for more fruit case material. Pine material should be imported.

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AGENTS

VICTORIA: Fruit Packers Associated Pty. Ltd., 395 Collins Street, Melbourne, C.1.

SOUTHERN TASMANIA: W. H. Ikin & Son, Dunn Street, Hobart.

NORTHERN TASMANIA: Bell & Gerrard, 200 Cimitiere Street, Launceston.

NEW SOUTH WALES: H. Dakin, Goldsbrough House, Macquarie Place, Sydney.

In reply, the Premier said the Government would go into the question of securing imports of pine cases. Apparently the Government would have to make arrangements for at least 1,500,000 cases, in addition to those the Apple and Pear Board could obtain.

TASMANIA.

Considerable support is being accorded to the newly formed Apple and Pear Growers' Union in Tasmania.

At the Huon Council it was decided to approve of the Union and to convene a public meeting at Huonville.

Bill to Control Marketing.

The Premier, Mr. Cosgrove recently announced that the Government would shortly submit legislation for the control of marketing by producer boards: he said the Government had always been in favour of co-operative marketing by primary producers. Earlier the Legislative Council had rejected this class of legislation: now, however, producers were pressing for the legislation and he would again submit a Bill to Parliament.

Tasmanian Apples in Sydney.

In a report in mid-August, the Tasmanian Government Marketing Officer (Mr. H. McKay) stated that all Tasmanian Apples were selling at the ceiling rate of 28/- per case. Varieties included Yates, 2¾; Granny Smith, Sturmer, Democrat and Crofton, 2¾ in. and larger.

Continuing, Mr. McKay reported that Pears were in light supply and prices were firm: Victorian Packhams, Winter Cole, Nelis and Jos., all sold from 26/- to 29/- per case for sizes 2¾ in. and larger.

Port Huon Fruitgrowers' Co-op.

The annual meeting of the Port Huon Fruitgrowers' Co-op. Association Ltd., was held at Hobart on August 27.

In his report the chairman, Mr. B. J. Pearsall, said that the trading in fruit pulps, largely for the fighting forces, amounted in the year to £267,804: the nett profit was £9,072. From the appropriation account of £17,457 (which included the profit from the previous year) it was agreed to pay a dividend of 7½ per cent., absorbing £3,876, leaving a balance of £13,581 to carry forward.

The directors are Hon. C. W. Frost, M.H.R., Messrs. W. E. Britcliffe, F. Cole, J. Coombes, A. Dickson, P. A. Feil, B. J. Pearsall, L. R. Shield and J. R. Welling. The manager is Mr. J. P. Piggott.

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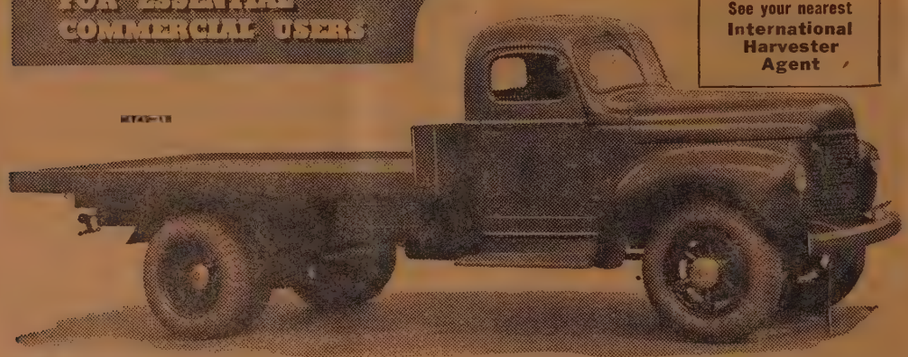

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Australian Apple and Pear Industry

TASMANIA SEEKS CONTINUANCE OF ACQUISITION DURING WAR DISABILITIES AND GROWER CONTROL OF EXPORTS BY LEGISLATION LATER — GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE SOUGHT TO ESTABLISH FACTORIES AND PACKING HOUSES — WEST AUSTRALIA SEEKS ESTABLISHMENT OF EXPORT BOARD.

Tasmania.

THE CONTINUANCE OF ACQUISITION of Apples, under just conditions, is requested by the Tasmanian State Fruit Board as the best means for tiding the industry over its present problems: the acquisition should be continued under National security regulations until the industry no longer suffered from war conditions. Subsequently any marketing scheme established under legislation in Tasmania should be in the hands of a Board controlled by the growers.

These points are included in the report and recommendations on post-war reconstruction of the fruit industry in Tasmania, as adopted by the State Fruit Board at a meeting in August.

The full report and recommendations are being submitted to the Minister for Post-War Reconstruction (Mr. Dedman), through the Tasmanian Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Madden).

Other portions of the report state:

"The most vital necessity for fruitgrowers is a plan whereby they could receive a return commensurate with the work and capital outlaid, and pay wages on a basis equitable with other industries, particularly secondary industries.

"To do this it would be necessary for the Federal Government to fix a minimum guaranteed price, yearly, on all oversea exports.

"To growers who had the initiative and enterprise to raise high quality fruit and to present it on the world's markets, no obstacle should deter them from securing a premium."

Recommended measures for implementing such a scheme were:

Tasmania.

1. In order to allow for some form of organised marketing we recommend legislation similar to the Queensland Marketing Act, which set up the Committee of Direction, Australia's most successful fruitgrowers' organisation.

2. With an increasing demand for canned fruit, it appears certain larger quantities of canned Apples would be sold. If so, factories must receive payable prices. Power should be given the proposed organisation to fix such prices.

3. Government asistance should be given to establish district co-operative packing sheds and factories, with modern equipment.

4. For economic stability of the industry, suitable timber reserves should be set aside for case timber.

5. Assistance should be given to encouragement of the use of fruit juices, and export markets should be explored.

Inter-State.

1. Vastly improved inter-State shipping services would be required. Refrigerated chambers should be fitted. Direct weekly services from northern and southern Tasmanian ports to Sydney and Queensland were essential.

Until Australian shipping companies could supply the required services, oversea ships should be used.

2. Should the proposed organisation be set up, negotiations should be instituted for the release of the Apple and Pear Marketing Board's selling floors in Sydney and Brisbane to the proposed organisation, so that growers could voluntarily consign their fruit for sale, particularly if dissatisfied with their customary agents.

3. There should be up-to-date facilities for handling fruit on the wharves.

Overseas.

Fruit exporters should be guaranteed against loss. The Federal Government should take control of oversea shipping and marketing of fruit.

For this it was necessary that some board or organisation should be set up. This body must not be confused with that previously mentioned, which would be purely a State body. The Apple and Pear Organisation Act should either be repealed or amended as there should not be control without financial responsibility.

Shipping.

1. Pre-war chartered ships were unsatisfactory. Action was necessary to ensure that only fast ships with a maximum cargo of about 130,000 cases, be accepted.

2. The encouragement of selling in longer lines under approved brands would be to the advantage of the industry.

3. There was a potential market for a large amount of Australian fruit in ports from the Mediterranean to the Far East. This opening should receive consideration. If favourable trade agreements were made with Continental countries, and the many restrictions imposed in pre-war days lifted, large quantities of Australian Apples and Pears could be disposed of with little difficulty.

4. As the case timber problem was acute, not only in Tasmania, but in mainland States, attention should be given to the importation, duty free, of pine cases from Canada, Russia, Sweden, and other timber growing countries.

5. A system should be inaugurated whereby six young fruitgrowers should be chosen yearly and sent to the United Kingdom markets to study methods of handling and marketing fruit, with a view to educating fruitgrowers generally in the requirements of these markets.

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The secretary was instructed to write to the Australian Apple and Pear Council suggesting that council be called together to discuss its present position and the export of fresh fruit after the war.

It was further agreed that a plebiscite of growers be taken to determine whether they favour the Queensland scheme.

It was agreed to write to the Russian Minister in Canberra on case timber supplies from Russia.

It was decided to wait on the Premier (Mr. Cosgrove) and put before him the extreme urgency of the case timber shortage.

The chairman (Mr. T. G. Thompson) and Messrs. L. S. Taylor and J. S. Bulman were appointed to meet the Premier.

It was agreed that meetings of fruitgrowers in the North and South should be convened at an early date.

The Tasmanian State Fruit Board wrote to the Australian Apple and Pear Council—the voluntary organisation which regulated exports pre-war—proposing that a meeting of the Council be called, but that representation should be limited to grower delegates only.

A reply was sent stating that the Australian Apple and Pear Council consisted jointly of both growers and shippers, and it was deemed impossible to use the funds to convene a conference of one section only. Copies of the correspondence were circulated to all organisations affiliated with the Council for their comment.

Western Australian Views.

The West Australian Fruit Growers' Association (Inc.) wrote stating they were strongly urging that the Apple and Pear Marketing Board, which was constituted under legislation in 1938, should be re-formed.

This action was being taken as a result of a unanimous resolution at the last annual conference of the West Aust. Association. They point out that the original Board referred to was brought into being at the request of the industry, through the Council, particularly because of the need experienced for powers to permit of the enforcement of decisions in respect of shipments and related matters.

The W.A. Association considers that it is not possible to safeguard export practices on a voluntary basis, and feels it would be tragic if the benefits of the legislation mentioned were to be lost.

If it should subsequently be found that a parallel body, such as the Council, is necessary additionally (which is deemed unlikely) the W.A. Association would then be willing to look at such a proposition. They feel, however, that the action for the appointment of the Board must take precedence.

New South Wales.

Mr. H. V. Smith, general manager, Batlow Packing House Co-op. Ltd., one of the N.S.W. delegates to the Australian Apple and Pear Council, points out that at the recent annual conference of the N.S.W. Apple and Pear Growers' Association a resolution was carried requesting that the Government call an Australian conference of Apple and Pear growers and Departmental experts.

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VICTORIA.

Report by Dept. of Agric.

MELBOURNE, 31/8/45.—Useful rains occurred in all fruitgrowing districts during August, but the falls were insufficient to fill the main water storages. Soil moisture is adequate to enable the trees to make good spring growth.

Winter sprays for Green Peach Aphis have been applied to Peach trees, and growers are now spraying Peaches and Nectarines with Bordeaux mixture for control of Curly Leaf, Shot Hole and Brown Rot. Eggs of Bryobia Mite are very noticeable on Apple and Pear trees. Growers sprayed with winter strength oil sprays for the control of this pest. Japanese Plums were sprayed with fungicidal sprays for the control of Shot Hole and Prune Rust, which diseases have been rather neglected in previous years. These trees are now blossoming heavily.

Prospects for the coming Pear crop appear to be poor except in the Goulburn Valley, where early and mid-season varieties are showing fair bud development. Peaches in the Harcourt district promise to have a light crop. Almonds have blossomed heavily in all districts, and good crops are expected.

Green manure crops in northern areas established under irrigation, and early planted crops in southern districts have grown satisfactorily and will be ploughed in shortly.

Pruning of vines in the dried fruits districts is almost finished. Drainage and retrellising are receiving a good deal of attention. This important maintenance work, which was neglected during the war years, is being resumed now that labour is more plentiful. The first general irrigation in the Mildura district will commence at the end of August.

Harvesting of Navel Oranges and Mandarins in the Mildura district was completed, and only a small portion of the crop remains to be picked in the Swan Hill district. Some frost damage has appeared in citrus groves, but it is not as extensive as that which occurred last year.

Vegetables.

Planting of seedlings for early Tomatoes is continuing in northern districts. Frost-damaged early plantings have been replanted. A large area of Tomatoes for processing will be planted this year. Good quality Lettuce are being harvested in the Mildura area.

With the exception of garden and canning varieties of Peas, vegetable seed crops will be considerably reduced in area this year. Onion crops are growing satisfactorily in the Western District. Planting of early Potatoes is continunig in southern vegetable areas. In East Gippsland the main crop of Peas is being planted, and land is being prepared for sowing the early Bean crop.

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VICTORIAN FRUIT INDUSTRY.

Decline in Area Over Last 20 Years.

DURING THE PAST 20 YEARS there has been an overall reduction in the area of orchards in Victoria from 80,000 to 70,000, and a reduction of the number of growers by 1,700.

This was stated recently by Mr. T. H. Kneen, B.Agr.Sc., Senior Horticultural Instructor of the Victoria Dept. of Agric. in the Department's journal.

Continuing, Mr. Kneen stated:—

"In Victoria, about 70,000 acres of land are devoted to orchards, representing a production of approximately 6,500,000 bushels and 6,000 growers. There are 42,500 acres of vineyards, representing a production of 9,250,000 bushels of fresh fruit and 2,400 growers. Next to dried vine fruits, the most important sections of the fruit industry are Apples (24,000 acres), Peaches (14,500), Pears (13,000), and citrus (6,000)."

The reduction referred to occurred mainly in the Apple industry, many small and unprofitable areas in marginal areas having been eliminated.

On the other hand, Pears and Peaches have increased in importance over the last 10 years.

Most other sections of the industry have remained relatively stable for many years so that it seems unreasonable to expect any spectacular expansion of fruitgrowing in the post-war years unless overseas markets expand in the case of exportable fruits or the population of Australia undergoes a marked increase.

Imperial Preference.

The dried vine fruits industry, which depends on the operation of British Imperial Preference, has been stabilized for many years. The small percentage (4 per cent.) of unproductive vines (not yet in bearing) reflects the policy of discouraging expansion in this industry. On the other hand, in spite of overall reduction in acreage, nearly one-fifth of the orchard areas consist of young trees, due to the growers' policy of changing over to more profitable varieties and kinds of fruit and replacing old trees.

Victoria produces nearly one-third of Australia's fruit. Nearly two-thirds of Australia's dried vine fruit production, which now exceeds 90,000 tons, comes from this State and three-quarters of the canned fruit production, which in pre-war years exceeded 40,000,000 cans, is also of Victorian origin.

COOL STORES ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Orchardists' and Fruit Cool Stores' Association of Victoria was convened for August 28 at Melbourne, but this was postponed on account of the Victorian Railways strike. The meeting was postponed until September 4th. The report will be published in our next issue.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DRIED FRUITS BOARD.

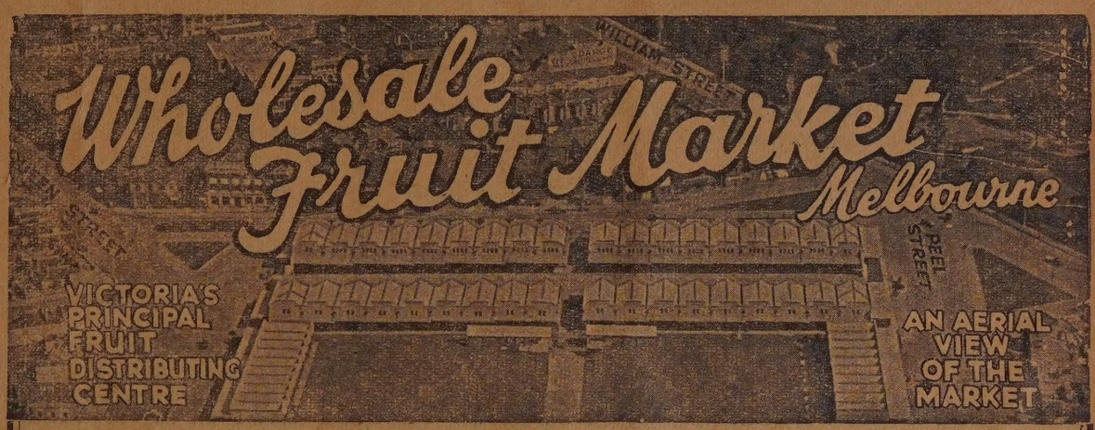
At a meeting of the S.A. Dried Fruits Board on 27th July (Mr. G. A. W. Pope presiding) the correspondence included requests for supplies of fertilisers, the matter of further plantings and the drying of certain varieties of Grapes.

The recommendation of the Consultative Committee to fix the final quotas for the year 1944 was approved. These remain unaltered and are—Currants 30 per cent., Sultanas 32 per cent., and Lexias 42½ per cent. The Secretary (Mr. W. N. Twiss) reported that the Sixteenth Report of the Board for the year ended 28th February, 1945, had been sent to the Minister of Agriculture, and copies would be available after the report had been tabled in Parliament.

A report by an officer of the N.S.W. Dept. of Agric. on demonstrations for the treatment of drought-damaged Sultana vines was noted, and the Secretary reported on the steps being taken by the S.A. Dept. of Agric. in the same connection. There was also tabled the latest Annual Report by the South African Dried Fruits Board.

The recommendation of the Consultative Committee for the holding of the conference of all State Boards in Melbourne on the 25th and 26th October, 1945, was agreed to, and members were asked to submit items for the agenda.

Report of the Investigation Officer (Inspector J. E. Noblet) on his visit to Broken Hill was submitted, and the Secretary reported he had forwarded a copy to the N.S.W. Board.



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Growers Will Receive Top Market Value and Prompt Returns.
Fidelity Bond Guarantee for £1,000
13 and 14 Victoria Market.
Pea and Bean Stands,
Reference—E.S. and A. Bank, Elizabeth St. Branch, Melbourne.
Phone: F 5035.

Market Notes and Prices

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Sydney (29/8/45).

The State Marketing Bureau reports as follows (Cty Municipal Markets).

Current prices:—Apples: Interstate—Jon., Statesman, G.S., Rokewood, Sturmer, Demo. and Crofton, 29/-. Pears: Interstate—Packhams, Winter Cole and Jos., 25/- to 30/-; Nelis, 22/- to 29/- (very small sizes and faulty packs lower). Oranges: Navel—Coastal and Irrigation Area, to 20/-; Valencia—Coastal, to 20/-. Lemons: Coastal, 12/- to 16/-. Mandarins: Emperor, 20/- to 25/-, inferior lower, per bush. case. Bananas: 7d. per lb., undergrade and inferior lower (weight 80 to 96 lb. per case). Passionfruit, 10/- to 20/-, few higher. Loquats: Mammoth 8/- to 20/-, Common 6/- to 10/-. Avocados, 10/- to 20/- per half case. Strawberries: Queensland 18/- to 30/-, few higher, per doz. packets. Papaws, 10/- to 18/-. Pineapples, 15/- to 21/3 per tropical case.

Vegetable (City Municipal Market).

Current quotations:—Peas, 23/4; Beans, 25/- (nominal) per bush.; Cabbages, 8/- to 25/-, few early sales higher; Cauliflowers, 8/- to 40/-, occasional sales higher, per doz.; Lettuce, 6/- to 14/- per case; Carrots, per cwt. basis, 10/- to 20/-; Parsnips, 4/- to 6/- per doz. bunches, per cwt. basis, 20/- to 26/-, inferior lower; White Turnips, 2/6 to 4/-; Rhubarb, 10/- to 14/-; Spinach, 6/- to 10/-; Eschalots, 4/- to 6/-; Mint, 3/- to 6/-; Parsley, 12/- to 24/-; Radishes, 2/- to 3/; Beetroot, 2/ to 5/-; Celery (local), 12/- to 24/- per doz. bunches, (S.A.) counts 20 to 30, 17/4 to 26/- per crate; Tomatoes (glasshouse), 14/- to 17/-, few 18/-; (N.S.W.), 6/- to 14/-, few higher, overripe lower; (N. Qld.), 5/- to 10/-, occasional sale nigher; (repacked), 6/- to 14/- per half case; Potatoes, 1st grade, 7/10½; Onions (Vic.), brown 22/- to 23/-; Swedes, 6/- to 10/-, choice washed to 12/-; Pumpkins, 9/- to 14/-; Sweet Potatoes, 16/-, inferior lower, per cwt.; Brussels Sprouts (V.), 10/- to 20/- per box; Mushrooms (cultivated), 3/- to 4/- per lb.

VICTORIA.

Melbourne (4/9/45).

Vegetables.

Beans, French, 10d. to 1/4 lb. (max.), inferior lower; Beetroot, 8d. to 10d. doz., max. 17/- cwt.; Beet, Silver, 3/- to 4/- doz. bunches; Cabbages, 4/- to 8/- doz.; Carrots, 2/6 to 4/- doz. bunches, max. 21/- cwt. without tops, 16/- cwt. with tops; Cauliflowers, 6/- to 12/- doz.; Celery, 6/- to 8/- doz.; do., Adelaide, 14/- to 24/- double case; Cucumbers, 2/- to 4/- doz.; Garlic, 1/3 to 1/6 lb.; Horseradish, 1/- to 1/3 bundle; Leek, 3/- to 4/- doz. bunches; Lettuce, 5/- to 10/- case; Mint, 2/6 to 3/- doz. bunches; Melons, Citron, 6/- to 12/- doz.; Onions, green, 1/- to 2/- doz. bunches; Parsley, 2/- to 3/- doz. bunches; Parsnips, 2/6 to 4/- doz. bunches, max. 23/- cwt. without tops, 18/- with tops; Peas, to 40/- 50 lb.; Potatoes, 10/- to 11/- bag; Pumpkins, 8/- to 24/- doz.; Radish, 1/6 to 2/- doz. bunches; Rhubarb, 4/- to 5/- doz. bunches; Savoys, 4/- to 7/- doz.; Spinach, 4/- to 6/- doz. bunches; Sprouts, 6/- to 9/- doz. lb.; Tomatoes, 15/- to 20/- half-case (max.); Turnips, 3/- to 4/- doz. bunches; do., Swede, 10/- to 14/- bag; do., 3/- to 4/- doz. bunches.

Fruit.

(Bushel Case, unless stated).

Apples, eating 16/- to 26/-, few to 27/-; do., cooking, 15/- to 25/-, few Granny Smith to 27/-. Oranges, Navel and Valencias, to 20/6 (max.). Lemons, 15/- to 20/- (max.). Mandarins, 16/- to 25/6 (max.). Pears, dessert, Packham, 14/- to 24/-. Pears, culinary, 12/- to 18/-. Papaws, 25/- to 35/- double case. Bananas, to 7½d. lb. (Max.). Pineapples, 16/- to 23/9 double case. Passionfruit, 18/- to 30/- half case, few higher.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Adelaide (3/9/45).

The S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association report as follows:—

Vegetables.

Beans, French, 16/- doz. lb. nominal only; Beetroot, 3/- doz. bchs.; Brussels Sprouts, 8/- doz. lb.; Cabbage, large 12/- doz., medium 9/- doz., Savoy 5/- to 10/- doz.; Carrots, 4/- doz. bchs.; Cauliflowers, large 14/- doz., medium 11/- doz., small 7/- doz.; Celery, 6/3 doz. heads; Leeks, 4/- doz.; Lettuces, 3/6 doz.; Onions, Brown 18/- cwt.; Parsnips, 4/- doz. bchs.; Peas, 20/- bush.; Potatoes, new, 8/1½ cwt.; Rhubarb, Cherry, 4/- doz. lb.; Tomatoes, firsts, 20/- ½ case; Trombones, 11/8 cwt.; Turnips, 3/- doz. bchs., Swede 4/- boz. bchs.; Triambles, 11/8 cwt.

Fruits.

Bananas, ripe, 8d. per lb.; Pineapples, 5½d.; Passionfruit, 2/- to 3/- doz.; Melons, Pie 9/4 cwt.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SALES IN SYDNEY.

Dockets Now Necessary.

Regulations under the N.S.W. Farm Produce Agents Act have been amended to allow of the introduction of a docket system for sales of farm produce by agents and merchants. The amendments were published in the "Government Gazette" of August 3rd:

It is now provided that every farm produce agent shall keep a cash sales receipt book, from which shall be issued to each cash purchaser of farm produce at the time of purchase, a receipt containing certain details of the transaction. A duplicate copy of the receipt is to be retained by the agent. Owing to difficulties of trading procedure, it is provided that receipt dockets need not be issued in respect of any cash sales of Cabbages and Cauliflowers.

A cash sales book, formerly required to be used by agents and merchants for entry of details at time of sale, will not now be compulsory.

The Registrar, Farm Produce Agents Act, states that it would have been impracticable to arrange for the writing of dockets in triplicate so that one copy might be sent to the consignor. It had to be remembered that a retail fruiterer, for example, might purchase from one agent several lines which have come from a number of different producers, thus making it impossible for each consignor to get a docket.

Under the duplicate docket system it is stated that protection will be afforded the agent and the producer, and to some extent the retailer and the consumer. If a producer considers that his accounts sales are not what they should be, the Department can investigate any complaints by examining the original docket held by the retailer and the duplicate docket retained by the farm produce agent.

Licensed Farm Produce Agent

F. CHILTON

ESTABLISHED 1894

Fruit Commission Agent

SHIPPING NO. 56

HIGHEST MARKET PRICES — PROMPT RETURNS — RELIABLE ADVICE.

Registered Address for Telegrams and Cables: "CHILTONS."

References:—Bank of N.S.W., Haymarket, Sydney, and Growers throughout Australia.

10 CITY FRUIT MARKETS, SYDNEY.

MEMBER NEW SOUTH WALES CHAMBER OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLE INDUSTRIES.

FOR SERVICE AND SATISFACTION . . .

CONSIGN YOUR FRUIT TO

J. J. MASON

Licensed Farm Produce Agent, City Markets, Sydney

Stencils on Application. Telephone: MA 2605. Ref., Bank N.S.W., Haymarket.

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Postal Address: Box 36, Haymarket P.O., Sydney. Established 1882.

SHIPPING NO. 19. 88 VIC. & TAS.

Stencils, Advice Notes, etc., on Application.

Telephone: MA 3846. Established 1900.

W. MUSGROVE & SON

Licensed Farm Produce Agents.
8 City Fruit Markets, Sydney.
Our Motto—Quick Sales and Prompt Settlements.

Forwarding Numbers:
Tasmania, Victoria, S. Australia, No. 53.
Queensland, Northern Rivers, No. 18.

Producers' Co-operative Distributing Society Ltd.

Are now paying a Bonus of 33⅓% on all Commissions charged to regular clients of the Fruit & Vegetable Section for year ending Sept., 1943

Send Your Consignments TO US

MELBOURNE & SYDNEY.

N.S.W. CHAMBER OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLE INDUSTRIES.

At the 10th annual meeting of the N.S.W. Chamber of Fruit and Vegetable Industries. The following were elected to the Council for the ensuing three years: Messrs. F. Chilton, E. Cooke, C. Smith, J. J. Mason and H. M. Gauld.

President's Report.

The President, Mr. H. P. Woodward, M.L.A., presented the annual report, which stated, inter alia, Membership fully maintained, 150 full members and 34 associate members.

Numerous conferences had taken place dealing with ceiling prices, deposits on cases, writing of dockets (opposed as impracticable and inopportune), secondary wholesalers' margins, Apple boycott by shopkeepers' Association, and suggested reforms to the Apple and Pear Marketing Board, Manpower, Market Stores, etc.

New Market Cool Stores: A large portion of No 3 Market was resumed for a cool store last year The Chamber was instrumental in having the 30 businesses affected transferred to No. 1 Market instead of being dispersed in odd corners Some firms are still suffering inconvenience and relief was hoped for.

Sectional Activities: Due to war conditions, the existing section: Vegetable, Citrus, Strawberry, Potato, Banana and Pineapple were continually in touch with the Prices Branch and other authorities. The Chairman of each section will continue their duties in this connection.

Other matters dealt with in the report included debtors' schedule, Staff Provident Fund, Commonwealth Chamber, etc.

Obituary: Apart from the loss of great leaders such as President Roosevelt and Mr. John Curtin, the Chamber had tendered sympathy to those in the trade who had suffered bereavement, the relatives of Mr. Fred Beavis and to those of Mrs. H. Dunston; to Messrs. C. G. Kellaway, L. Greentree, A. W. Waddell, W. Constantine, H. A. Stevenson, P. S. Macdermott and A. C. Ward. The trade had lost old friends: Mr. Yeates of Tasmania, and Mr. Challis, of Gosford.

War Services: Appreciation was recorded to sons of members who had given splendid service, viz., the three sons of Mr. Fred Chilton (Brig. Fred Chilton, D.S.O. and Bar, Lt.-Col. Harry Chilton and Sqdn.-Leader Robert Chilton; the son of Mr. Ted Cooke, Wing-Commander Harry Cooke, D.F.C.

The defeat of Germany and Japan was acclaimed.

Appreciation was expressed to the founder of the Chamber, Mr. L. J. Jenkins; to the Secretary, Mr. P. S. Macdermott and staff.

In forwarding the report, the Secretary states that the President and Executive Officers will be elected at the next meeting of the Council on September 11, and continues: "The Chamber had another successful year in matters affecting the interests of all sections of the industry . . the Chamber is not an agents' protective society, but is definitely an industry organisation."

QUEENSLAND CHAMBER OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLE INDUSTRIES.

At the recent annual meeting of the Queensland Chamber of Fruit and Vegetable Industries it was reported that the membership now stood at 51, plus 7 associate members.

In his report the President, Mr. Y. F. Jesser, stated that benefits had resulted from contact with Railway authorities; already there had been an improvement in the transport of Peas from the New England district to the Brisbane markets; it was hoped to institute bulk loading from districts not now served in this respect.

The trading activities had resulted in the ample supply of nails, also a quantity of hatchets had been secured; it was hoped to increase these activities and include the supplying of twine, chalk, bags, etc.

Through consultations with the Apple and Pear Board there had been improvements in selling arrangements.

It was hoped to overcome the inconvenience and loss caused through lack of cold storage space. Because of arrangements with the three cold stores in Brisbane it was hoped that satisfactory arrangements would be made for next season. Reference was made to improve trading arrangements following the successful conference of the Commonwealth Chamber of Fruit and Vegetable Industries —attended by delegates from all the States: the President (Mr. Jesser), and Mr. L. A. Martin, were the Queensland delegates.

Appreciation was expressed for the services of the Secretary, Mr. E. Brooks.

Obituary: The trade had suffered loss in deaths of Mr. Herb. Thorpe, Mr. R. G. Livingstone, Mr. L. Franzen and Mr. A. E. Wool.

Office-bearers were elected: Pres. Mr. Y. F. Jesser; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. J. H. Leavy and A. Martin; Immediate Past President, Mr. L. A. Martin; Treasurer, Mr. T. S. Bowden; Executive Committee, Messrs. A. L. Evans, D. Mackay, R. Murray, W. Buttormsen, P. McCowan and H. L. Wool.

NEW TRADE ORGANISATION.

A body styled the New South Wales Vegetable Growers' Council has been formed in Sydney.

Members of the provisional Council are: Messrs. W. H. Wilson (chairman), R. Tyacke, A. Tasker, H. W. Tooth, A. Marshall, and H. Norvill.

Agents in the

BRISBANE FRUIT MARKETS

Highest Prices **A. S. BARR** Prompt Returns.

FRUIT EXCHANGE, BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND.

Wholesale Fruit Merchant and Growers' Agent

A Trial Solicited. Established 1888. Returns Speak for Themselves. Registered Telegraphic Address: "Barr, Brisbane." Shipping No. 10.

W. Arkell & Sons Estab. 1892

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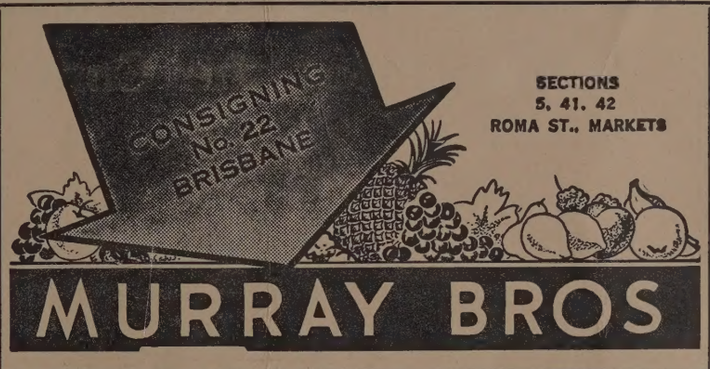
HEDLEY GEEVES PTY. LTD.

Fruit Exchange, Brisbane

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: APPLES, BRISBANE.

SHIPPING No. 6

ESTABLISHED 1912.



APPLES AND PEARS.

Ceiling Prices in Victoria.

Melbourne (29/8/45).

The following increased maximum wholesale selling rates for Apples and Pears operated as from August 27, 1945, states the Deputy Prices Commissioner.

Apples: Wholesale ceiling (Victoria Market): Per bushel of 40 lb., 27/- case; 38 lb., 35/6 case; 36 lb., 24/3 case; 34 lb., 23/- case.

Pears: Wholesale ceiling (Victoria Market), 30/- per bushel.

Relevant retail ceilings, Melbourne Metorpolitan Area, remain unchanged at:—**Apples,** 10d. lb.; **Pears,** 10½d. lb.

CODLING MOTH CONTROL.

"How to Beat the Codling" is the title of an interesting booklet issued by the Vacuum Oil Co. Pty. Ltd.

The life history of the codling moth is described and illustrated. The information on all phases of codling moth control is conveyed to answers to a series of questions such as "When should the first spray go on?" "Should I use a spreader?" "Is the grub becoming immune to arsenic?" "Won't I get a better kill if I double the strength of lead arsenate?" etc. Particulars of the use of oil with the sprays are given. Copies of this helpful booklet are obtainable free from the company's offices in the several States.

— SPECIAL NOTICE TO FRUITGROWERS —

In response to numerous requests from growers for information as to who are members of the

VICTORIAN CHAMBER OF FRUIT & VEGETABLE INDUSTRIES,

the following list is given. All are members of the above Association, and are registered firms carrying on business in the WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET, MELBOURNE. (All Members under Fidelity Bond)

Stand Numbers are as indicated in Parentheses.

T. STOTT & SONS PTY. LTD. (26-36).
H. L. E. LOVETT & CO. (23).
A. E. PITT (14).
J. DAVIS PTY. LTD. (8).
W. S. TONG (31).
SILK BROS. PTY. LTD. (24-25).
J. G. MUMFORD (35).
GOLDEN VALLEY FRUIT CO. PTY. LTD. (15).
J. W. ROSS (13).
H. M. WADE & CO. (21).
DAVID SMITH PTY. LTD. (3).
SILBERT SHARP & DAVIES PTY. LTD. (17).
WATKINS FRUIT COMPANY PTY. LTD. (5).
G. WOOLF & SONS (29-30).
R. CORNISH & SONS (5).
J. HYMAN & SON (51).
HERBERT WILSON PTY. LTD. (10).
FRANK BOOTH & SONS PTY. LTD. (16).
GEO. LISTER PTY. LTD. (12).
TIM YOUNG & CO. PTY. LTD. (18).
F. W. VEAR PTY. LTD. (28).
YEE HOP LOONG & CO. (32).
H. LOUEY PANG & CO. PTY. LTD. (4).
D. MENTIPLAY & CO. PTY. LTD. (27).
WING YOUNG & CO. (38).
E. G. KING PTY. LTD. (2).
REGAN & KENNY (Successors to Wm. Sweeney) (33).
INTERNATIONAL FRUIT & MERCANTILE CO. (6).
D. S. LUCAS & CO. (9).
PRODUCERS' CO-OP. DISTRIBUTING SOCIETY LTD. (7).
R. A. WING & CO. (37).
YOUNG SANG (45).

Correspondence is invited by the Association.

Office: 21 Wholesale Fruit Market, Queen St., Melbourne. Phone: F 4866.

Goulburn Valley News and Notes

(By Our Correspondent.)

SHEPPARTON FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

A very well-attended meeting of the Shepparton Fruit Growers' Association on August 23rd unanimously re-elected Mr. N. W. Fairless as President with the same salary and an additional bonus of £50. Mr. Norman Spivey was re-elected Secretary. Both officers were thanked in glowing terms for their very fine service.

The Association is facing a difficult year, no feed for working horses being its immediate concern. Labor problems loom ahead, probably worse than last year—no Service personnel, and Manpower robbed of its power to direct labour.

Good rains are steadily increasing the flow of the Goulburn storages and ensuring irrigation supplies for next season: there are good prospects of increased petrol ration.

Election of Officers.—President, Cr. N. W. Fairless; Vice-Presidents, Cr. R. N. Roberts and Mr. N. Hanlon; Secretary, Mr. N. Spivey; Treasurer, Mr. L. Pither. Committee: Crs. W. L. Pearse and W. L. Ford, Messrs. W. Elinson, D. Taylor, E. G. Young and J. Rosenbaum. The latter replaces Mr. E. J. Jane, in praise of whose services a minute of appreciation was recorded.

Levy of 1/6 Per Ton.

With assets at over £1,000, members agreed still to adopt the same levy as last year—1/6 per ton. Moving this, Cr. Pearce said he foresaw plenty of trouble ahead this season, and markets must be found. They could not afford to reduce the levy.

Schoolboy Pickers Wanted.

Appreciation was expressed for the services of schoolboy pickers, and on the motion of Cr. W. L. Pearse, seconded by Mr. N. Hanlon, it was decided that the boys be secured if possible.

The Advisory Committee has continued to send out circulars containing advice on spraynig and other orchard practice.

During the past season the Committee secured a formula for the manufacture of chemical bands. It was felt that owing to labour difficulties, members could not attend to the ordinary bag bands, and they would be more a menace than a help: so it was arranged for the manufacture and distribution of the chemical bands. The results were most encouraging, and if it is desired the Association will arrange for continuity of supply.

D.D.T. Spray.

The Secretary stated that immediately on hearing of the new D.D.T. chemcial he had written to Mr. Ward, Supt. of Horticulture, who replied as follows:—

It was found that under the conditions prevailing last season no damage was caused to either fruit or foliage, and that the residue was extremely low. From the control angle, the material gave sufficient promise to justify further tests, and it is hoped to conduct additional experimental work during the coming season.

Until more definite information is obtained on the efficacy of D.D.T. for Codling Moth control and its toxicity to humans, it is considered that, quite apart from availability, it would be inadvisable to use D.D.T. as a general horticultural insecticide over the coming season.

A new product was coming on the market, known as Six-Double-Six, which would control Codling Moth, Red Spider and Scale.

Cultural Hints.

The Growers' Advisory Committee recently issued its programme for early spring spraying, and continued:

Orchard Hygiene.

Growers are urged to carry out a complete programme of orchard hygiene. Several points are stressed. (a) Before spraying the trees, hoe around the butts and remove all rubbish and mounds of earth, as these are likely to harbor over-wintering grubs. (b) When scraping, pay special attention to the forks of the trees and the part of the butt below the ground level.

Vat Cleaning.

When changing over from one spray to another any residue left in the vat should be removed by thoroughly washing the vat with hot water and soda.

Mooroopna (30/8/45).—Conditions in the Goulburn Valley are very favourable. August was a wet month with mild conditions and spring showers: the subsoil is thoroughly soaked, and the prospect for a good fruit season is in sight. Apricots, Peaches and Plums are blossoming well, and under favourable conditions should set good crops.

W.B.C. Pears are not so heavily budded as usual. Packhams are good, but Josephine Pears seem very light. It is rather too early yet to forecast the coming Pear crop.

August has been a busy month in carrying out the spraying programme under difficult conditions owing to wet weather. Pruning is still in full swing, and will not finish for a couple more weeks.

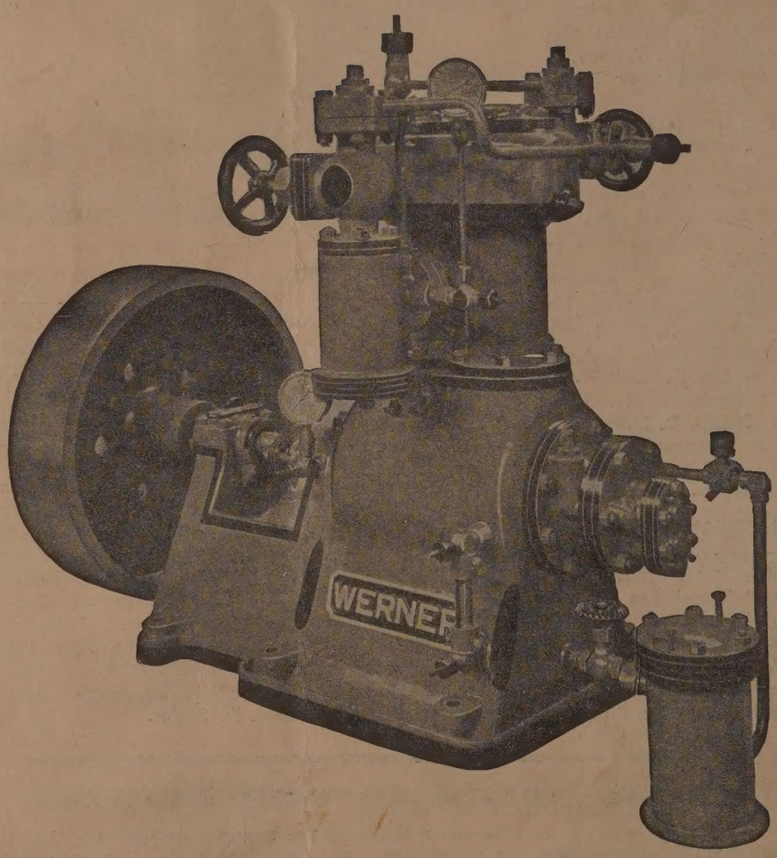
New Growers' Associaton.

A new fruitgrowers' association is in course of formation in Victoria. This is known as the Eastern Metropolitan Fruitgrowers' Association. A public meeting of all interested has been called to meet in the Wantirna Hall on September 7; the notice calling the meeting is signed by Mr. E. T. Farmilo, Acting Secretary.

It is understood that difficulties have arisen in connection with the Fruitgrowers' and Primary Producers' Defence League, the strongest branch being the Eastern Metropolitan, hence the creation of the new association as a separate organisation.

WERNER REFRIGERATION SERVICE

Throughout the Commonwealth



R. WERNER & CO. PTY. LTD.

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South Aust.—W. J. WHITE, 30 Grote Street, Adelaide.
Tasmania.—NOYES BROS., Hobart and Launceston.
N.S.W.—STUART, WALKER & CO. PTY. LTD., 174 Clarence Street, Sydney.
Queensland.—G. A. ROCHE PTY. LTD., Woolloongabba, Brisbane.

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